

Odd couple: gay men and monogamy
Survey and male sex workers report on
an 'unspoken issue' among gay couples.
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Japanese art meets AIDS awareness: Masami Teraoka show at Asian Art Museum.
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Lethal weapon
Mark Wahlberg shows
13" in 'Boogie Nights.'
see Arts section



BAY AREA REPORTER

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Teen slaying suspect's gay modeling career surfaces

A 17-year-old Atascadero youth implicated in the August murder of a San Francisco area gay Russian businessman is the cover model of the November 1997 issue of *XY*, a glossy international gay youth-oriented magazine.

Arrested in August in connection with the murder of 29-year-old Vitaly Poliakov, Joshua Puckett is held in the San Luis Obispo County jail and has not been charged with homicide, pending the completion of a continuing investigation by the Contra Costa District Attorney's office.

He remains in custody on auto burglary charges in connection with a string of San Luis Obispo county auto thefts and for probation violation in connection with a previous robbery, according to attorney Jere N. Sullivan, Jr., Puckett's appointed alternate public defender.

Puckett faces eight years in state prison in connection with those charges, Sullivan said.

Sullivan has not discussed the homicide with the youth and can neither confirm nor deny any facts related to the case. He expressed little surprise about his client's appearance in the popular national gay youth magazine — "given his physical appearance."

"He's a good-looking young man," Sullivan said. "I

don't know whether he's gay or not. I haven't asked him."

Puckett has claimed that he killed Poliakov during an altercation at an Orinda house after he woke up and found the Russian émigré sexually assaulting him, according to reports.

'Out of touch'

Puckett's appearance in *XY* was his first exposure as a professional model, according to a spokesperson for the magazine, which declined extensive comment on the controversy.

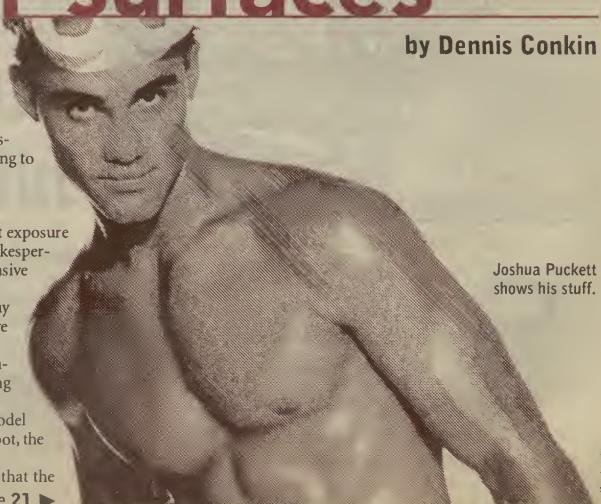
"We are a positive magazine for young gay men. If we had any idea, we wouldn't have used him," an *XY* spokesman said.

Besides the cover shot, Puckett is also featured in an inside photo spread, lounging with another male model.

Puckett was a model working for City Model Management when he did the *XY* photo shoot, the spokesman said.

City Model told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the

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Joshua Puckett shows his stuff.

Bradford Noble

Gay civil rights and HIV work bills killed by Wilson

by Marghe Covino
BAR Capitol Correspondent

Late Friday night, October 10, Governor Pete Wilson vetoed AB 257, the measure that would have added the prohibited discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation to California's Fair Employment and Housing Act. Adding sexual orientation to the FEHA would also allow the GLBT community up to a year to file charges of discrimination. Current labor law allows only 30 days to determine and file anti-gay discrimination charges.

"This is a sad day for California's lesbian, bisexual, and gay community," said Ellen McCormick, Legislative Advocate for LIFE lobby. "Today our governor has said that we are not as important — that the discrimination we face is not worth protecting the same as discrimination on the basis of race, sex, religion, ethnicity, nation of origin or disability. This is the second time this measure has been before Governor Wilson, and the second time he has vetoed it."

LIFE Lobby Executive Director
page 21 ►

US judge to rule on SF domestic partners law

by Cynthia Laird

U.S. District Judge Claudia Wilken will soon decide the legality of San Francisco's landmark domestic partner benefit law. Oral arguments on behalf of the ordinance were presented Friday, October 10 in federal court by Dennis Aftergut, chief assistant city attorney; opposing him was Brendan Dolan, lead attorney for the Air Transport Association (ATA), which filed a lawsuit against the law last May. Wilken did not indicate what her decision might be or when it will be rendered; she took the case under submission,

as was expected, after the hearing in her Oakland courtroom.

The ATA is an organization of the nation's major airlines, including United, which is widely believed to be an instigator in the court action. The law requires businesses that contract with the city offer benefits to domestic partners of employees if they offer those benefits to employee spouses. United balked at having to comply with the law to secure a multi-million dollar 23-year lease for a building at San Francisco International Airport.

The case is very complicated, and Wilken had already received boxes of documents

from both sides before the oral arguments last week in the first court hearing.

The ATA argued that federal law governs the industry and pre-empts San Francisco from imposing regulations on air carriers. The city argued that the ordinance is a nondiscrimination in contracting law, and an important civil rights issue.

"We think we're going to prevail," City Attorney Louise Renne said.

PM&M Electric Company, represented by the Pat Robertson-backed American Center for Law and Justice, also filed a federal lawsuit against the ordinance earlier this year. However, at the last minute, PM&M withdrew its motion for summary judgment in the case. ▼

How now, High Brow?

by Dennis Conkin

When Queens Collide," the annual High Brow Society fundraiser, is scheduled for Saturday, October 18 at Collingwood Park, from 7:30 p.m. to 1 a.m.

The gal event is based on an intergalactic theme this year. According to organizers, it will feature full bars and Cosmo bars, space age dancing, private and group photo opportunities, a fabulous "Vegas in Space" lip-synch lounge, and other celestial delights. Atomic attire is encouraged.

Beneficiaries for the fundraiser are AIDS Benefit Counselors, BAY Positives, and the Eureka Valley Recreation Center.

Tickets to the event are \$40 each, and are available at a variety of Castro area locations, including Under Cover at 535 Castro Street, Sun Shade Optique at 2327 Market Street, Body



The effervescent Dior Sisters at the annual High Brow Society Halloween.

at 4071 18th Street, Elevation at 4231 18th Street, and Citizen at 536 Castro Street. ▼

For more information, contact the High Brow Society at (415) 281-0842, or SF HIGHBROW@aol.com.

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Wining and dining



Jane Philomen Cleland

R. Sandra Hernandez (left) shares a laugh with activist Renee Williams at the Oct. 9 UCSF AIDS Health Project gala at the Fairmont. Hernandez was the recipient of the AHP Champion Award that was given last year to Rep. Nancy Pelosi. The star-studded event, "It Ain't Over Yet, Folks... And We're Here Until It Is," raised more than \$85,000 for AHP's various programs and services.

Sunrise Healthcare hit with HIV bias suit

by Dennis Conkin

A New Mexico-based health care corporation that recently acquired 12 long-term skilled nursing care centers in the San Francisco Bay Area has been slapped with a federal HIV discrimination lawsuit by a gay man who worked for one of its Washington state facilities.

The Sunrise Healthcare facilities provide long-term skilled

nursing care, including AIDS care, for people needing a residential care environment.

The complaint alleges that Sunrise violated the federal Americans With Disabilities Act and state anti-discrimination laws when it fired Mark Rivard two weeks after he confided to a supervisor that he was HIV-positive and that his partner suffered from AIDS.

Rivard, 35, was a food services manager at the corporation's Laurelwood Center in Seattle. Rivard told the *Bay Area Reporter* that he discussed his own HIV infection, and his partner's AIDS, with his supervisor one day after he successfully completed a 90-day probationary work period. He said he divulged the information when scheduling his work shifts, so he could have time to care for his partner.

Rivard said that the supervisor had appeared sympathetic, and said she was pleased with his work performance and had no problems to discuss. However, he said, after he mentioned his health condition, he noticed a marked a change in attitude from his co-workers.

"The first week, I wrote it off as people having bad days. The second week, I started thinking it was something I did," Rivard said.

He says it wasn't until after he was fired that he started to wonder if there was a connection between his disclosure and his co-

workers' change in attitude.

According to Sunrise's formal response to the allegations filed in Seattle District Court, Rivard was fired for failing to maintain adequate kitchen standards and being unable to perform his duties.

An attorney for the company flatly said that Rivard never told supervisor Penelope Watkins that he had HIV or that his partner was sick.

After Rivard was terminated – just days before he would have received long-term disability benefit coverage and been made eligible for other healthcare benefits – he learned that the forms he signed to have such benefits hadn't even been processed by the company. In fact, the papers had actually been voided before he was terminated.

"It just blew me away and has affected me in so many ways," Rivard told the *B.A.R.* "It's so disgusting and low."

A spokesperson for the company said that the corporation had strong anti-discrimination policies and did not discriminate on the basis of HIV infection in employment.

The Bay Area skilled nursing care facilities operated by Sunrise are in Fremont, Hayward, Concord and other outlying locales. The company's sole San Francisco facility is Physicians Access Clinic, a California Street facility that provides physical, occupational, and speech therapy. ▼

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Chamber of Commerce honors gay leader Mark Leno tonight

by Dennis Conkin

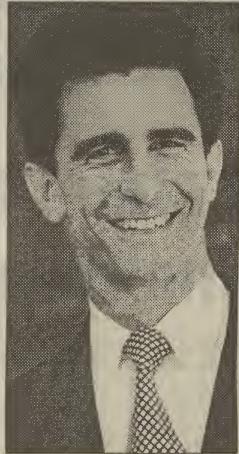
Community activist Mark Leno will be honored with the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce's James R. Sylla Award during the Chamber's sixth Excellence In Business Awards gala dinner at the San Francisco Hilton tonight (Thursday, October 16).

This year's EBBIE recipients are facilities contractor AMB Industries Incorporated, Macy's West, and Hambrecht and Quist, a top public equity underwriter, according to Chamber of Commerce spokesperson Carol Pisante.

In addition to recognizing local companies for their creativity, innovation, and entrepreneurial excellence, the annual event honors local individuals who make extraordinary contributions to the economic life and vitality of San Francisco.

Leno was chosen for the Sylla Award because of his civic and leadership contributions, Pisante said. The annual award honors the late Chevron USA president and Chamber of Commerce leader.

A Milwaukee native and one-time assistant to singer Art Garfunkel and special assistant to composer and conductor Leonard Bernstein, Leno has lived in San Francisco since 1977.



Mark Leno

The owner of Budget Signs, Leno is active with the Human Rights Campaign, The American Jewish Congress, and a variety of Democratic groups, and co-chaired Supervisor Leslie Katz's 1996 election campaign. He is currently co-chair of the \$3.5 million capital campaign for the Community Center Project.

A founding member of congregations Sha'ar Zahav and Ahavat Shalom, Leno has also served on the board of Mobiliza-

tion Against AIDS and served as a volunteer for a variety of AIDS-related organizations, including the GodFather Service Fund.

In honor of his financial and leadership contributions to the community, Leno has received a variety of prestigious awards, including the Academy of Friends Kyle Ozier Award, the Nestle's Company Community Honors Award, the Small Business Network's Small Business Owner of the Year Award, and the 1996 Harvey Milk Award from the Cable Car Awards.

"I'm pleased that the Chamber is recognizing the contributions of gay and lesbian San Franciscans," Leno said. "At time when our corporate neighbors are beginning to support our community's non-AIDS activities, we encourage the Chamber of Commerce to continue to champion our efforts."

The annual Excellence in Business Awards dinner begins at 6 p.m. The presentation will emceed by KGO-Channel 7 reporter Terilyn Joe. For ticket information, contact the Chamber of Commerce at (415) 392-4520.



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Turkish Indigo	8' x 11'	3,250	1,530	1,224
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Indo-Kashan	9' x 12'	4,000	1,950	1,560
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Pak-Bokhara	2 1/2' x 10'	1,000	450	338
Sino-Tabriz w/silk	2 1/2' x 12'	2,250	1,050	840
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Together again



Men of All Colors Together recently gathered for the annual Pacific Coast Regional Network weekend, Oct. 10-12. From all over the West Coast, men of all ethnicities and backgrounds met to eat, talk, shop, brainstorm and get reacquainted. The event opened with a reception at the Cyberworld Café (above) on Folsom Street Friday night. For more information on MACT, call 415/675-0201 or e-mail: mactsfba@aol.com.

Gay men claim abuse from Home Depot

by Dennis Conkin

Two Daly City men say an anti-gay comment from an assistant manager at the Colma, California Home Depot outlet was an unexpected – and unwanted – part of their purchase on Sunday, October 12, and they have filed a hate-speech report with Community United Against Violence about what one called “verbal gay-bashing.”

The story began when the couple ordered carpet and linoleum from the Colma Home Depot, according to Alan Leff. “The person

who did the measuring was very professional and nice,” Leff said. “We paid \$3,504, half by credit card, half by check.” Several hours later, however, he received a phone call from a Home Depot employee who said there had been a mistake – and the store wanted \$504 more.

Leff told the *Bay Area Reporter* he was transferred to the assistant manager, who informed him the store would either deliver 82 yards of carpet – not the 102 the couple believed they had purchased for later installation – or return their check because Home Depot hadn’t “rung it up yet.”

Leff said that if the couple would have paid \$4,000 if that’s what they had been initially charged. “But,” he said, “don’t tell me four or five hours later that you’re raising the price.”

“It’s not acceptable. They agreed to do a job on a property, and it’s a contract when you exchange money for it.”

Not personal

Leff says he advised the assistant manager that the couple would seek the assistance of a local television station’s consumer alert program and other press about the incident. That’s when he said the acrimonious conversation ended, with a response that left him stunned.

“He said, ‘You’re a stupid queer.’ I heard it with my own ears. My friend said that I should just hang up, and that’s just what I did,” Leff said.

Despite Leff’s assertion, a spokesperson for Home Depot said that she does not believe the assistant manager said any such thing.

“I don’t really think that happened. It’s not how we operate our business. We have gay and lesbian customers and associates,” said Amy Friend, a Home Depot regional public affairs spokeswoman.

Although Friend acknowledged that “there was back and forth” between the couple and the Home Depot employee over the dispute, she said none of it “was personal.”

Friend told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the assistant manager in question had worked for the company for a while.

“I have to believe him,” Friend said.

She said the couple received the call about the price problem with their carpet and linoleum after a store employee logging the purchase into the store’s computer discovered “an adding and subtracting mistake” by the salesman.

The issue has been forwarded to the Home Depot District Manager for resolution, Friend said.

But Leff said that he came to his own resolution of the issue the next day.

“I canceled the order,” he said. He and his partner have contacted CUAV to complain, and ordered carpet and linoleum from a different store.

Leff said that despite having shopped the Colma Home Depot two or three times a month in the past, he cannot “in good conscience” shop at the store any longer.

“Half our things are from Home Depot,” he told the *B.A.R.* But now, “I can’t walk in the front door of the store after the assistant manager called me a stupid queer.”

“Would you?” ▼

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Courts to hear about violence against gays

by Dennis Conkin

Several gay-related criminal court proceedings are on the docket this week at the Hall of Justice at 850 Bryant Street.

Four Fairfield, California men are scheduled to appear at the second half of a preliminary hearing on Friday, October 17, on felony assault and robbery charges in connection with a Pride Day crime spree that included a Mission Street gay-bashing.

Henry Bryant, 19, Jabari Jones 20, Darnell McLaren, 20, and Curtiss McCain, 20, are charged in a gay-bashing near Third and Mission streets. The defendants allegedly drove by in their car and taunted two gay men and three lesbians with anti-gay epithets as the victims were walking down the street.

The four men allegedly got out of the car and began running at the victims. One of the assailants swung a bat at the head of one of the women and at one of the men.

Jones allegedly grabbed one of the women's arms and made a sexually provocative slur.

Mondelli case

The long awaited case of Dr. Dean Freeman, the former San Francisco General Hospital psychiatrist who is charged with the

1994 attempted murder of a former patient he is also accused of sexually exploiting, has been scheduled for Superior Court on October 20.

Freeman, 37, is charged with stabbing local actor Mario Mondelli more than 20 times with a camping ax and hunting knife in a July 1994 attack that left him with permanent injuries.

After the attack, the 40-year-old Mondelli was taken to San Francisco General Hospital, where he was unconscious and on life support systems for two and a half months after the attack. He was later transferred to another facility, where he spent approximately a month and a half.

Mondelli also suffered permanent injuries from Freeman's attack, including loss of peripheral vision to his left eye from an ax blow to his head, plus hernias as a result of emergency surgery. He has had extensive plastic surgery on the 21 ax and knife wounds.

A civil case against Freeman, the City and County of San Francisco, and the University of California was earlier settled out of court.

Freeman, who remains free on bail, faces life imprisonment if convicted of the charges.

Pit bull case

The Superior Court trial of

three defendants charged with felony aggravated assault charges in connection with a savage pit bull attack and beating of two gay men at Church and Market Street last December is also scheduled for trial in San Francisco Superior Court on October 20.

Randolph Rodriguez, 26, Eltro Nelson, 27, and Justo Rivera, 26, could face ten-year prison sentences if convicted on the charges.

The incident took place after one of the suspects allegedly knocked down the parked motorcycle of one of two victims in the case. The motorcycle was parked on Church Street in front of St. Francis Lutheran Church, where the victim was attending a meeting.

As the man left the church to find out what had happened, one of the trio threatened him. As a crowd gathered, one of the suspects allegedly began pointing at various people and threatening them.

The men – and a fugitive female – picked out a vulnerable looking gay man in the crowd and attacked him with their fists and feet and then had the pit bull attack the victim, according to reports.

In coming to the victim's assistance, the owner of the motorcycle was severely bitten by the pit bull. ▼

Willie's city state is rosy in annual address

by Cynthia Laird

The slick "State of the City 1997-98" report handed out to the nearly 1,000 politicos, commissioners, civic leaders, and the other assembled movers and shakers as they entered Herbst Theater October 14 said it all – San Francisco under the leadership of Mayor Willie L. Brown, Jr., has never been better, and the future looks even brighter.

Tuesday's State of the City address by Brown contained some surprises; notably, the mayor came out against Proposition H, the Central Freeway issue, supported moving the M.H. de-

Young Museum out of Golden Gate Park, and said he favors restricting vehicular use of a stretch of Market Street to Muni, taxicabs, and commercial deliveries. He acknowledged that his positions on the controversial subjects – deYoung Museum relocation, Central Freeway, no private cars on Market Street, and welfare reform – will not be shared by all city residents. "I know I'm pushing the envelope; I'm pushing the edge," he said at one point.

The mayor's 95 minutes-long extemporaneous speech was vintage Brown: his grand vision for San Francisco calls for all the problems associated with urban

living to be solved, or at least managed well.

Regarding HIV/AIDS in particular and public health in general, Brown discussed the city's implementation of substance abuse treatment on demand and hopes the program can be expanded to include mental health services next year. He said the recent advances in HIV/AIDS treatment are welcome news for many living with the disease. But he emphasized not everyone has benefited.

"We can be optimistic, but some are left by the wayside. The African-American community is one, the Latino community is one. The issue of AIDS is still with us," said Brown. ▼



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OPEN FORUM

Abridgment too far

The subject of censorship seems to be popping up everywhere today. Recent targets of the sex police have ranged from sitcom star Ellen DeGeneres's kissing another woman on prime time, to porn star Aiden Shaw baring his genital appendage for the internationally famous art photographers Pierre et Gilles.

Some calls for buttoning up our privates and our public displays of affection have come from people who say they are our friends – it was, after all, Disney's network that aired the "parental advisory" before *Ellen*, thereby preventing some kids from being able to witness the kiss. (A *make-believe* kiss, by the way, for those who didn't see the episode; it wasn't even genuine lesbian passion that stirred up the controversy, but a plot device played for a laugh.)

With people of all ages still lining up to see *In & Out*, where Kevin Kline and Tom Selleck lick each other's tonsils, why did ABC have to air a Virgin General's Warning just because *Ellen* was popping a joke kiss on her best (straight) friend? Is this misogyny at work? Whatever the reason, it doesn't really seem to make sense, and it's bad for the kids who need it most.

We're glad that DeGeneres made her annoyance clear to those involved and that ABC decided not to continue the "advisories." A decision made, no doubt, after getting an earful from the intrepid Ellen.

Standing up to, and shouting down, the sex police is increasingly important. Lately we've noticed they've taken on the attitudes of anti-smokers with that intense humorlessness that makes us nervous. Their strident Puritanism is laughable, yes, but when laughing doesn't prevent them from hanging fig leaves and chastity belts on everything in sight, then we must fight back.

Here are some "advisories" we think need to be reiterated, no matter how many times they must be repeated before they sink in:

- Knowledge is power.
- Depriving others of knowledge is abuse.
- Penis photos, unlike second-hand smoke, pose no health risks.
- People kiss people for a variety of reasons, and it's only wrong if the person receiving the smooch doesn't want it.

We suggest people who want to make this life a little better turn away from censorship

and commit themselves to getting involved in matters of public health and welfare, by fighting against (for example) Governor Pete Wilson and his callous disregard for the ill. Or the United States Congress and its egregious ban on needle exchange.

By the way, kudos to the newly crowned Miss America, Kate Shindle – described as a "no-nonsense midwesterner" – who took the lead on that front. After first announcing she wanted to make AIDS the theme of her reign, and then taking a serious misstep by telling a reporter she didn't support needle exchange programs "because they really sort of break the law," she took the time last week to find out the facts about those programs. She visited the Sexual Minority Youth League Assistance, a gay and lesbian youth group in Washington that provides social and support services, and was briefed by the National Organizations Responding to AIDS coalition. Like all right-thinking people – and unlike Congress – she soon realized needle exchanges' merits far outweigh their debits, and publicly called upon people to "set aside your biases, open your minds... accept the facts... stop the rhetoric, and start taking action."

Indeed.

But you don't have to be Miss America, or Ellen DeGeneres's mom, or Newt Gingrich's sister, to have an effect. Perhaps the press will not be as interested in quoting your feelings about needle exchange as Miss America's, but there are people who value your opinions.

They are called politicians, and whether you remember it or not, they work for you.

When the legislature next meets, in the wake of Pete Wilson's vetoes of some desperately needed bills, consideration will be given to overriding some of those vetoes. The more outraged mail they get, the more likely they are to support the overrides. Send letters to legislators at the Capitol Building, Sacramento CA 95814 and let them know it is only logical to make it possible for PWAs to return to taxpaying worker status; only humane to acknowledge the need for autologous bone marrow transplants for people with breast cancer; and only fair for our civil rights protections to be joined with other civil rights.

There are many things we must accomplish before this world is perfect, and hiding kisses and penises isn't even on the list. ▼

Editorial

Video sex and your sex life

by Lance Alarcon, Matthew Denckla, and Robert A. Pérez

If the plethora of video stores that run up and down 18th Street are any indication, the video porn industry is faring quite well here in San Francisco. Steamy flicks with hot hunky men line the windows at almost every Castro video store. You can't miss them on your way to pick up a cup of coffee or wash your laundry.

In a city where gay and bisexual men, for years, have made little mental lists of low-to-high-risk categories of sexual activities, along with all the nerve-racking "gray areas," video sex has been one of the few constants in the no-risk, fear-free category. It's simple. You stick it in. You watch it. You get off. You can watch it by yourself or with a sex partner. At home or in a sex club. No questions. No thoughts about risk. Just pure simple pleasure. Hooray!

Because of years of having to think our sex lives to death, the thought of dissecting video sex and the impact that it has on our sex lives may cause some of us to shudder. You might ask yourself, "If you make me think about it, will it still be fun to watch?"

Yet one month ago, when outreach volunteers from the Stop AIDS Project began asking gay and bi men on the street about porn and its impact on our sex lives, most men had very strong opinions. And the opinions have varied. Some say it is merely a fantasy tool which helps to keep our sex lives exciting and different, giving us some ideas on how to liven things up. Others say that it creates unrealistic sexual expectations

of rock hard bodies, huge dicks, and multiple cum-splashing volcanic orgasms. Whatever the opinion, many feel that video porn does have an impact.

Undoubtedly, porn plays a very significant role in the sex lives of gay and bi men. For some guys, watching pornography was the first time they saw men having sex with other men, perhaps one of the few things which validated their desires. Even today, in some parts of the country, it's often safer and easier to watch gay porn in adult bookstores than it is to go to a gay bar.

What should we be asking ourselves about porn? Certainly, one of the most controversial areas has to do with porn that shows butt sex without condoms, an issue highlighted and sensationalized by the media's obsession with "bareback" sex. Do we find it sexier than porn that shows sex with condoms?

This brings us to a core issue: if we watch certain things over and over again, will it eventually begin to affect our behavior? Will we want to have unsafe sex? Will we stop talking about sex with our partners? Will we begin to think that those "magic" porn condoms will suddenly begin appearing on our dicks or on the dicks of our partners with no apparent effort or discussion?

For years, children's advocates have been arguing that repeated exposure to violence on television is desensitizing children to violence. Can the same argument be made about porn? Unbelievable bodies. Enormous dicks. Earth-shattering orgasms. Magic condoms. No condoms. No conversation. No negotiation. Watching lots of it. Over and over again. Does it have an impact? What kind of impact? You probably have an opinion.



We encourage you to join in this important community dialogue. If you're interested in adding your voice to the discussion, make sure to attend "Stick It In: Video Sex & Your Sex Life," one in a series of topical community forums sponsored by the STOP AIDS Project.

"Stick It In" will take place on Saturday, October 18 beginning at 2 p.m. at MCC, located at 150 Eureka Street (at 18th) in San Francisco. The forum is free and open to gay and bisexual men of all ages and will include a panel of porn makers and porn film critics.

If you're unable to attend "Stick It In," make your voice heard here in the pages of the Bay Area Reporter by writing a letter to the editor. Or you can start your own dialogue. Talk to someone, perhaps your lover or your best friend, about how porn affects our sex lives. Then go rent a video and continue your research. ▼

Lance Alarcon is a volunteer with the STOP AIDS Project. Matthew Denckla and Robert Pérez are program staff members with STOP AIDS. On-line comments can be sent to StopAIDS@webscouts.com.

LETTERS

Whining about due process

I am reluctant to write regarding your latest trash-ing of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation (SFAF), since you seem to be rabid about the subject. However, your article about Michael Petrelis in the October 2 issue needs a response.

I glean from your report that Petrelis, a client of the SFAF, Shanti and the AIDS Health Project, somehow obtained confidential documents from SFAF and made them public. As a result, the organizations told him he was no longer welcome in their offices and that, since he had no respect for the confidentiality of other people, he would not be permitted to participate in group services at those agencies. Your report that he can continue to "receive individual services."

If Petrelis is not willing to respect the rights of other people to confidentiality, why should he be permitted to continue to be provided potential access to confidential information? Under the circumstances, the fact that these agencies will continue to provide any services speaks volumes about their forbearance and perhaps also about their gullibility.

I think it is significant that Petrelis is now complaining about lack of due process. He and his supporters are whining that he wasn't notified in advance of the not-unreasonable actions taken by the care-providers. The retreat to the due process argument is an admission of guilt in this case. Where was the due process when Petrelis decided on his own to disclose confidential documents?

Jeff Getty rants that "it's outlandish" to deprive Petrelis of services, not noting that he can continue to be provided individual services. "Petrelis is a PWA," Getty is reported as saying. When did status as a PWA give anyone the right to escape responsibility for their actions and their consequences?

Robert Siverling
San Francisco

Much yabba dabba do about nothing?

Your cutline on the photo about the recent demo outside A Different Light bookstore was misleading.

The demo was not against us, but against censorship in the Castro. We supported the demo, and a store employee stood out there with the five or six demonstrators to explain our position. We placed the promo Sexball poster in the window, and it sat there for four days unaltered. Not one, but many complained (to the point where employees were feeling harassed), with one person threatening to call the police. Finally, we decided to make a statement. Placing a Flintstones Band-Aid over Aiden Shaw's dick was an act of street theatre that showed the ridiculousness of covering any part of the human body. If the Band-Aid didn't bring home that message, the accompanying "Notice" did. We created a situation that invited dialogue in the community — and that's what happened. The demo was part of that dialogue.

We also incorporated the Band-Aided photo into our Banned Book Week display, using it to illustrate the lengths to which people go to censor images they find uncomfortable for themselves or others to view.

We weren't the only ones forced to deal with this issue — both All American Boy and Hype magazine shielded the eyes of the public from Shaw's dick. The problem is that legally we were all in a bind. The obscenity laws in this city, according to the National Coalition Against Censorship, are vague enough that police could have busted us. We are not in a position to take on a legal battle at this moment.

Perhaps it's time we as a community called on our supervisors to introduce a resolution calling on the police not enforce obscenity laws. Or at least clearly define them, so we know what we're up against.

It's madness when the sight of a naked man (whether erect or not) causes such a turmoil, especially here in San Francisco.

Richard Labonte, general manager
Tommi Avicoli Mecca, events coordinator
A Different Light Bookstore

Response to rodeo

On behalf of Orange County's largest animal rights organization, we write in response to a flyer for a gay rodeo in San Diego.

Gay participants and spectators at rodeos have probably experienced being ridiculed and/or teased and/or brutalized and/or violently attacked for what someone considered entertainment.

We invite your readership to support and strengthen animal rights as well as gay rights, civil rights, women's rights, children's rights.

Please... we urge everyone to consider the rights of all living beings in all aspects of your lives.

Veda Stram
Orange County People for Animals
Irvine, CA

[Editor's note: Perhaps you should consider putting a Band-Aid over the offending flyer and calling it street theatre.]

God bless Billy Graham

[The following was sent to Supervisor Amos Brown:]

I appreciate your expression of outrage on behalf of the gay community over the comments of Rev. Billy Graham regarding his belief that homosexuality is a sin. I'd like to explain to you why I, as a gay man — one who co-founded the San Diego chapter of Queer Nation several years ago — am unconcerned about what Rev. Graham has said.

His remarks were made as an honest and simple statement of his beliefs, and were a fairly innocuous statement at that. He did not, as many fundamentalist posturers do, blame gay folk for the downfall of society or any other such nonsense. He did not make the statement in an effort to inflate homophobia or to exploit hatred of gays toward increasing attendance at his crusade. He simply identified homosexuality as one symptom of humanity's general fall from grace, according to his understanding of the Christian tradition. I can live with that.

As a gay man, my highest priority is not to protect my right to engage in sexual activity with people of my own sex, but to protect my more fundamental right of conscience. As my conscience declares my sexual orientation to be both permissible and profitable, I reserve my right to follow my conscience. If I reserve the right to act on my conscience for myself only, that right is meaningless. I must — in conscience — allow others to follow their own consciences, even if that leads them to embrace beliefs contrary to my own.

I came out more than 12 years ago. During these 12 years, I have observed a near constant verbal war between the gay and the Christian communities. Both sides have differences of opinion. I have grown weary and exasperated with the mutual demonization by each side of the other; it is simply the exploitation of hatred in order to further the short-sighted political goals of both parties. So rather than offer a knee-jerk criticism of Graham, who is a public figure, not an elected one who might be led to a stricter expectation regarding his public remarks, I'd prefer to dial down the hostility and offer him a blessing while praying for a day when we all might recognize each others' right of conscience and practice the tolerance so widely preached here in San Francisco.

Keith W. Ramsey
San Francisco

Rational selfishness

I think your readers deserve a more critical, nuanced look at Ayn Rand's philosophy than Beth Elliott provides in her hero-worshipping column of October 2. Far from being the "pre-eminent philosopher of our century" as Elliott breathlessly proclaims, Rand's actual philosophical writings barely totaled 600 pages, according to Dr. David Kelley, one of her academic acolytes. Most of Rand's philosophy consisted of political dialogues inserted throughout her two principal novels, *Atlas Shrugged* and *The Fountainhead*. In the Randian ideal world, there would be no minimum wage laws, no civil rights laws guaranteeing access to public accommodations, housing or employment, no child labor laws, no building codes, no safety laws, no public education, no anti-trust laws, no rent control for tenants' protection, no public highways, no public parks, no zoning laws, no legal rights to organize in unions, no eight-hour workday laws, no legal overtime laws, no progressive taxation (you pay the same rate as Rockefeller because he "earned" his billions!), no licensing of doctors, lawyers or anyone else, and the market would guarantee all your rights according to how many votes, i.e. dollars, you had at any given time. There would be no Bill of Rights, since every entity would be privatized. Of course, there would be a few exceptions like "defense" the police-prison complex, the patent office — *all corporate welfare* — and those wonderful right-wing courts upholding the "rights" of those who have against those who don't. Again, another Randian-approved statist exception would be corporations themselves, with all of their legal immunities against individual responsibility that in another context (welfare mothers) people like Rand and Elliott would rail against. Most of the Randian rights would be in objective reality the rights of corporations to dictate the absolute conditions of everyone else's life.

Amazingly, Rand endorsed the government space program, the military-industrial complex ("a Communist lie"), censorship of possibly prurient window displays, was indifferent to gun control, and advocated compulsory jury duty, i.e., servitude. She was hostile to gays, particularly lesbians, whom she thought dominated the feminist movement, and denounced the anti-war movement while opposing the draft. She also hated men with beards. Parts of her worldview may be valid, such as the emphasis on reason and the metaphysics of one world, i.e., objective reality. But does a rational selfishness require that I worship the business world and the crooks at the top of same?

Michael P. Hardesty
Oakland, CA

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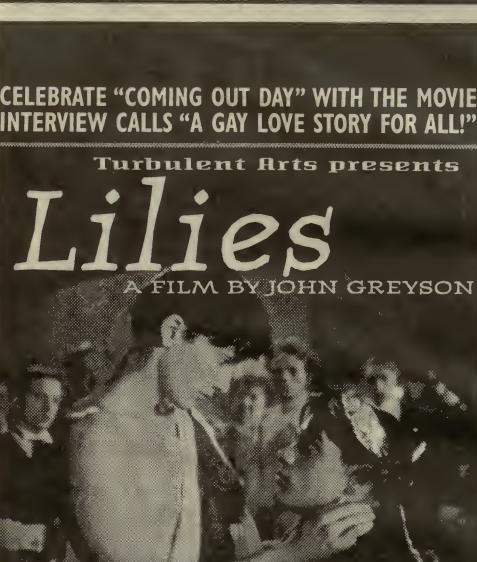


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Edifice wrecks

Re: L/G/B/T Community Center Board vs. Queen Anne, Sept. 25: True, speakers were divided about razing the Queen Anne Victorian on the Center's property at Octavia and Market, but not evenly: only seven of 34 present spoke in favor of demolition. Again, this self-selected board has made a bad decision and demonstrated that it is only narrowly representative of the community it purports to represent.

As time goes by, I am less and less inclined to put my "hope and faith in the people who have been dealing with this project." While I have little doubt in their ability to see this project through to completion, I suspect the result will be a glitzy edifice more satisfactory to the Redevelopment Agency than the Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender community.

Reid Condit
San Francisco

Victorian firetrap

I strongly support the decision of the gay community center board to build a new building rather than renovate the old Victorian on Market Street.

I attended the meeting where this decision was made in September. I was struck by the fact that, with one exception, every speaker in favor of keeping the Victorian at the expense of meeting space was a white male. Not a single person of color, and only one woman, spoke in support of the Victorian. I mention this not to divide our community, but rather to point out that support for renovation is not widespread.

We badly need a community center where we can have meetings, workshops, public forums, support groups, etc. If we decide to keep the Victorian, we lose space for all of those things. For what purpose?

The Victorian in question is an ugly, dilapidated firetrap and eyesore. I say full speed ahead with demolition and a beautiful new building for our community.

Alexio Gonzalez
San Francisco

Architectural challenge

Regarding the 103-year-old Victorian at 1800 Market Street, site of the new Lesbian Gay (et al) Community Center, now the target of demolition. Originally the intent was to incorporate this unique Victorian structure with a new building bridging neighborhood and generations to a collective architectural vision, a concept we can all applaud. So what went wrong?

It seems the "feasibility study" conducted recently reveals the Victorian sits on sand. This increases the cost of restoration and retrofitting substantially, and cuts down on the usable space — or so the report claims. Let me suggest that while there may be truth to the costs involved in restoration and inclusion of this building, it's highly likely that other entities could be at work here, including the real possibility that demolition has always been a priority for this project.

It should be noted that the study was conducted by the same people that have been awarded the design project for the Center, architects Jane Cee and Peter Pfau. The "winning" concept drawing was completely devoid of any intention to blend the architecture of the Victorian into the new structure. In fact, it is in direct contrast to Victorian architecture, and quite frankly appears downright erratic when looked at as a whole. Shouldn't we expect creative minds to propose a structure that avoids such drastic contrasts?

It seems the greater challenge of an architectural team would be to create an aesthetically appealing structure which incorporates the detail of the existing Victorian. If new construction in the Civic Center can blend old and new, as with the New Main Library and other buildings presently under construction, why can't this Community Center do the same? While the LGBTCC Committee did stress that the winning rendering was not necessarily the final look of the Center, it's very clear that the architects will not be interested in any efforts to blend old and new. Particularly when we consider the vote of the Committee (12 to 0) to demolish the Victorian, it becomes suspicious that there are forces at work here unknown to the general public.

Hypothesis apart, the committee for the Community Center needs to look at their decision more closely before a huge division of the gaylesbian community occurs. It makes far more sense to find an alternative site for the Center if the committee cannot find a way to include the Victorian as originally planned, be it as a result of incompatibility with the structure or indifference to it from some alternate source or the Committee itself.

Anyone interested in joining a developing movement to stop this demolition, please contact me via e-mail at: GRG@Steiner.CNCHost.Com, or telephone me at 863-6037.

Trust me, it won't be only gays and lesbians that object to the demolition of this Victorian building. Certainly not if I have anything to say about it.

Gary R. Goad
San Francisco

Empty protocol

Omitted from Cynthia Laird's fluff piece about the Gay/Lesbian/Bi/Trans Center's board of director's hearing for community input on their intention to demolish a landmark Victorian was any reporting of the content of actual community input.

Of the 35 members of the community that stood up at this hearing, over three-fourths gave impassioned pleas to the board to not demolish this historic structure. Some shared about our community's long history of restoration and preservation, and beautifying marginal neighborhoods. Hayes Valley residents pled for the life of this important component of the Hayes Valley Historic District, probably home to the best collection of Victorians in the city. Local architects reflected on the triangular building's uniqueness, the last of its kind. Long-time residents shared about coming to San Francisco in the '60s or '70s and experiencing their first loves in these enchanted-feeling habitats, and later, in the '80s or '90s, saying good-bye to those loved ones in those same dwellings.

S.F. Heritage president David Bahlman said his organization considers 1800 Market a unique and important building, definitely worth preservation, and, ironically, built by the granddaughter of General Castro, our neighborhood's namesake. He also offered to help secure lower-cost restoration services and tax credits. The board received this not with gratitude, but a lukewarm "we'll try and squeeze you into our busy schedule" attitude. The Victorian Alliance also voted unanimously to advise the board to save this structure. I guess Scott Schafer, Brenda Barnette, and the others must know better, as it became obvious that they'd made an earlier pronouncement among themselves, and were just conducting the hearing as a matter of empty protocol.

Of those few who sought demolition, most "just didn't like it," or weren't able to see the beauty of the building that lies beneath the years of disrespect. A woman shared that when she looked at the building, "all she sees is walls." She seemed to have as much trouble seeing the many doors and windows as she did identifying herself as board president Brenda Barnette's partner, Odd.

The architects and board cast around numbers like \$400 a square foot to scare the crowd into agreement. Why then did the Notre Dame project on Dolores (turning an old high school into senior housing), a project with equal or even more formidable restoration and seismic problems, cost only \$120 a square foot?

And how many of your friends have said, "What do we need a community center for, anyway? Isn't the whole city a community center?" like mine have. A handy place for 12-step groups? Are we that low on church basements in the neighborhood? A new home for nonprofits? Two-step dance parties? Quilting bees? Are these uses worth spending over \$12 million of city and private funds and demolishing a landmark building, all during a continuing AIDS epidemic?

Perhaps the Community Center should start out in a smaller, existing building and evaluate community need, and build a base of public support, rather than throwing up a glitzy L.A.-style monument to their fundraising abilities. Once, this board threw a big fundraising dance at the women's building, and almost nobody came. It seems like that should be taken as a cautionary omen.

Pardon us for seeming ungrateful, but isn't this OUR community center? Why is this board playing politics rather than respecting the wishes of a majority of the community? Is this not a simple issue? Before you open your checkbook to this board, or attend a fundraiser, let them know that they just can't go around demolishing landmarks in your name.

Is disregarding the community a way to create a community center? I think not. Do we need a big new building? We'll see.

If you're interested in joining a large group of architects and other community members dedicated to saving the Victorian at 1800 Market, please call Tom at 437-0420.

Rob Bregoff
San Francisco

Good riddance

Before we get too far along the road to calling for the rehabilitation of the Victorian, I would like to suggest a brief history lesson.

Queen Victoria, for whom this style of building is named, was one of the most vicious homophobic, anti-gay and lesbian people in the entire 19th and 20th centuries. She promoted social mores and values that led to the torture and demise of people like Oscar Wilde, who suffered in jail for being gay.

Why in the world would anyone fight to have a Victorian building, with all its namesake stood for, as part of an international symbol of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender freedom and equality?

I say good riddance to the monstrosity. Or sell it for one dollar to the highest bidder and wheel it away!

George Samson
San Francisco

POLITICS

Capital careers get a reprieve

by Wayne Friday

When an Appellate Court last week threw out the term limits law that California voters passed in 1990, the careers of many Sacramento legislators were "saved," but none were more enhanced than that of Assembly Speaker **Cruz Bustamante** (D-Fresno) and state Senate President Pro Tem **Bill Lockyer** (D-Hayward). Despite holding the powerful Speaker position, Bustamante, a Sacramento newcomer with fewer than four years in office, was perceived as being somewhat weak, particularly when compared to former Speaker **Willie Brown**. If the federal court had not overturned term limits, he would have been an easy target for an opponent after his job.

It should be noted, however, that despite the Appellate Court's 2-1 decision, the U.S. Supreme Court could overrule the lower court. The High Court now has less than two weeks to hear the decision; most legal experts expect that the Court will not even bother with the issue, and last week's narrow ruling will stand.

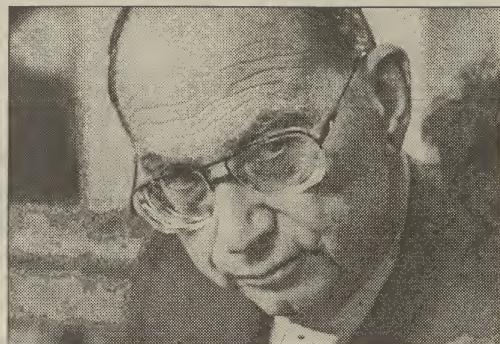
The ramifications of throwing out term limits are endless. First, it is generally felt that the Democratic Party stands to gain the most by the decision, since they hold a small majority in both the Assembly and the state Senate (and running as an incumbent is generally seen as an advantage). Since voters passed term limits (Prop. 140), the turnover in the Assembly has been huge; 64 of the Assembly's current 80 members have taken office since 1994. Only 26 of the 120 legislators making up the Assembly and state Senate were serving when Prop. 140 was passed.

The initiative passed seven years ago set a lifetime limit of three two-year terms in the Assembly and two four-year terms in the Senate. The new ruling, assuming that it stands, benefits Assembly Speaker Bustamante in particular, because it gives him the power needed to solidify his post by "punishing his political enemies and promoting his allies," a practice that former Speaker Brown turned into an art form.

State Senate President Pro Tem Lockyer, who had all but decided to run for state attorney general next year, will also see his power increase if the Appellate Court comes out on top. Lockyer is expected to stay in his present prestigious post rather than risk losing a race for the Democratic nomination for AG.

Locally, the ruling could mean a number of things. State Senator **Quentin Kopp** (I), who would have been termed out next year, can now run for a third term if he pleases. However, many political observers feel the veteran politico will forego another run, since he would likely face a very popular Democrat, former Assembly woman **Jackie Speier**, in next year's general election.

For Assemblywoman **Carole Migden**, the overturning of term limits would allow her to keep her



A third term for Senator Quentin Kopp could be in the offing.

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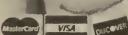
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by Beth Elliott

Take This Job and Love It Dept.: Apparently I set off a bit of a stir in the department I just left at Th' Day Job. After straddling two departments for five months, I've been recruited as a Geek Girl doing even more hypertext, spreadsheet work on project billing, and tech writing. Works for me, but some other folks don't have it figured out. Behind my back, my former co-workers have been asking how I got a cool new position, leaving them to deal with departmental upheaval. Meanwhile, the human resources folks asked me why the folks I left behind weren't hot to learn new technical skills for new positions themselves. I couldn't answer them; I couldn't imagine why.

This actually tied in to a couple of recent newspaper items ... like the often-thoughtful Atlanta Constitution columnist Cynthia Tucker complaining about "an economy that lavishes disproportionate rewards on the highly skilled." As someone recently "rewarded" for my skills, I'm surprised that Ms. Tucker is surprised that people with skills earn more money than those without — or that she finds something unfair about that state of affairs. I mean, like, *quelle surprise*.

Skills are worth more to employers than warm bodies without them. That's why people who have them can command lots of money for their use; sometimes businesses can't afford not to shell out for them. There's really no way around the fact that we who work for others have to upgrade our skills to upgrade our financial lives; fortunately, there are ways to do this. Next on *Oprah*: activists protesting the ill effects of the sun rising in the east.

Next item: Jim Gabbert is retiring after taking a failing radio station and a dinky little UHF television station and turning them into popular and successful independent outlets (he's a bird!). On TV20, he broadcasts our Freedon Day Parade and hosts a dance party (he's a bird!). Now he's sold TV20 for \$179 million (he's a dog!). He and his life partner are going to Europe and have

to figure out how to be rich people (what a dog!). Gabbert, 61, is a broadcaster who became a success by following his own vision and doing things in a unique and personal way; now he'll have everyone in town (including those who've made fun of him along the way) after his money for their causes (he's a bird dog!).

Yeah, Gabbert's in a spot ... if he doesn't give at least \$150 million away, some people will be making him out to be a villain because he didn't "share." But if he does donate that staggering amount, he still won't get any credit for doing good; people will say that's what anyone with that much money is supposed to do. Go figure. People will read of his cashing in and their ears will perk up like pets on his TV20 promos.

All I'm doing here is another send-up of the Everly Brothers' song "Bird Dog." My original I sang to my cat, Cocoa, before she died of diabetes complications; now I sing it to her daughter, Truffle. They both would sit in the window and try to make chirping sounds to lure passing birds. And thus the verse: Cocoa's soft and furry (she's a cat!). A toy mouse she will worry (what a cat!). But when she's in the window (she's a bird!). She chirps just like a sparrow (she's a bird!). Cocoa is a kitty who chirps just like a birdie (she's a bird cat!).

No Joy in Mudville Dept.: Mighty Barry has struck out ... looking ... with Bill Mueller running on the pitch and getting gunned down at second, without swinging to delay the Marlins' catcher's throw. Between that and Dusty Baker leaving Wilson Alvarez in after two walks in one inning, leaving him in to dash up the grand slam that knocked my Giants out of the playoffs, my social calendar (such as it is these days) is suddenly very, very open for the month of October. Nonetheless, the sudden end to the Giants' season beats the hell out of finishing in the cellar, which is what they'd done for the past two years and were expected by everybody to do

again. And leave it to the Candlestick fans not only to cheer the team for an exciting year but quickly find their sense of humor again.

I could tell people had hit their philosophical stride on the 9X Ball Park Express back to the Financial District. I was chatting with a woman who'd taken the regular 9 San Bruno bus after parking at San Bruno and Bacon — not realizing this bus wouldn't stop till she was miles from her car.

The driver came on the PA and said he didn't know the route. After a number of people volunteered the information, he asked whether he was supposed to go up Third Street. "101! 101!" the people began to chant; as the bus struggled across Third Street and up a shortcut to Bayshore Boulevard, everyone joined in saying, "I think I can! I think I can!"



Sapphistication

Since a couple of underpasses connect Bayshore with San Bruno, I suggested to a now very worried woman that she ask the driver to let her off. She started making her way toward the front of the bus as the driver continued up Bayshore and I called to him to stop at Silver Avenue; she'd have a bit of a walk, but wouldn't have to wait for a No. 9 downtown. The crowd on the bus, of course, picked up my call and started chanting, "She's on the wrong bus! She's on the wrong bus!" We were successful in getting his attention, and our last chant directed the driver to turn "Left on Third! Left on Third!" once he'd left the freeway and was heading up Bryant.

The whimsy definitely softened the blow of the three-game sweep, and was precisely what I would have expected from a bunch of San Francisco fans. ▼

Stop AIDS Project to host 'Sunday in Country' this weekend

by Ron Lazar

he Stop AIDS Project will host an afternoon fundraising reception this Sunday, October 19

from 3 to 6:30 p.m., allowing jaded San Franciscans to escape to the magnificent Green Valley Ranch in Napa. Among the two dozen members of the host committee for the event is community activist John Newmeyer, who with his 13 ranch partners have opened up their breathtakingly beautiful 1,000-acre ranch for this Sunday's reception.

"Once you pass through the gates of the scenic Green Valley Ranch, you will feel as if you've been transported to a place light years away from the mad rush of the city," explained Timothy Leifield, Executive Director of Stop AIDS Project. "Guests will get the

page 31 ▶

HISTORY LESSON

The doctor is...out

by David Bianco

This month in gay history: Dr. Howard Brown discloses his homosexuality to a group of physicians meeting in New Jersey, October 1973.

Nowadays, it seems like every few months a major public figure discloses her or his homosexuality. While the press attention varies depending on the extent of the person's celebrity — from coverage limited to gay publications to Ellen saying "Yep, I'm gay" on the cover of *Time* — the idea that some famous people are lesbian or gay is itself unremarkable.

That wasn't true in 1973. When Dr. Howard Brown (at best a minor public figure as the ex-head of New York City's public health department) talked about his homosexuality to a New Jersey symposium on human sexuality in October 1973, the disclosure was front-page news precisely because many people were surprised that a prominent physician could be gay.

When Brown was appointed by Mayor John Lindsay as the chief health officer of New York City in June 1966, the rumors of his homosexuality had already begun. One newspaper described him as "a forty-two-year-old bachelor who lives in Greenwich Village" — code for "homosexual" to anyone paying attention.

Nonetheless, Brown felt that if he acted carefully he could keep his private life from threatening his very public professional life as he worked to consolidate the city's disparate health agencies and supervise a budget nearing a billion dollars annually. His lover, also a physician, moved out and set himself up in an apartment around the corner. He had his phones checked and re-checked for bugs, and he avoided being seen socializing with the other closeted gays in Lindsay's administration.

Still, just six months into his tenure, one of the mayor's aides

visited him at home and asked about the truth of a rumor that linked him romantically to another man serving in the Lindsay administration. Brown truthfully denied the link, but he was put on notice that he needed to continue being careful.

A year later, Brown was in the hospital recovering from infectious hepatitis when his brother-in-law, a reporter for the *New York Times*, visited him and let him know that a *Times* investigative reporter was working on a story that would expose homosexuals in the Lindsay administration. Afraid of exposure and exhausted from illness, Brown sent a vague letter of resignation to the mayor the next day.

In the years that followed his resignation, Brown taught medicine at Albert Einstein College, and then at New York University beginning in 1970. At the same time, gay liberation had arrived in New York, starting with the Stonewall riots and continuing with the protests and parades organized by the Gay Liberation Front and the Gay Activists Alliance (GAA). He soon decided to help the gay activists, particularly in the area of fundraising. He approached his wealthy gay friends for contributions to the GAA. Most contributed, but only by writing checks to Brown, who in turn wrote checks to the Alliance. Brown later attributed his ultimate decision to come out publicly to the "magnificent fighters for human rights" of the GAA. Another factor was a heart attack he suffered in June 1972, which made him re-evaluate his fears of public exposure and the legacy he wished to leave.

He agreed to address a symposium on human sexuality in New Jersey in October 1973. Six hundred physicians gathered to hear a series of speeches about sexual behavior. To set a tone of openness, the symposium began with a se-

ries of films of explicit sexual acts. Brown later wrote, "As I watched the explicit sex in film after film, I wondered how my speech would be received. A film on female masturbation left me feeling like a middle-aged prude. ... We were worried that our earnest speeches might be a letdown after the 'action' of the films."

Nonetheless, Brown's talk garnered tremendous attention. Homosexuals are everywhere, he proclaimed. "I have met far more homosexual physicians than I have homosexual nurses, more homosexual politicians than homosexual hairdressers, more homosexual lawyers than homosexual interior decorators." He went on to criticize the studies that treated homosexuality as a sickness.

The *New York Times* treated the revelation as front-page news, and Brown was deluged with requests for interviews — as well as thank-you letters from gay men and lesbians around the country who considered him a role model.

In the fall of 1973, Brown was the most prominent American in any field to be openly gay. This prominence led him to be appointed the first-ever chair of the board of a new breakaway group from the GAA which called itself the National Gay Task Force. He headed that organization (which is now the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force) until his death from heart disease in February 1975 at the age of 50. ▶

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ABC flip-flop over Ellen's lip-lock

by Don Romesburg,
GLAAD/SF media resource center manager

In October 8, concerned about a humorous kiss between Ellen Morgan (Ellen DeGeneres) and her best friend Paige (Joely Fisher), *Ellen* was stamped by ABC with a special "parental discretion advisory," alerting parents to what ABC called "adult content."

DeGeneres expressed outrage at the decision to include the warning, and according to published reports had threatened to quit the show.

"This advisory is telling kids something's wrong with being gay," she told the *New York Times*.

On Wednesday, October 15, ABC announced it would no longer run the advisory. ABC has made a historic commitment to groundbreaking and inclusive television, not only with *Ellen* but with the numerous other lesbian and gay characters on their network. When *Ellen* made the decision to come out, both as a character and in her personal life, ABC supported her in the face of much bigotry and hatred from radical religious groups. Their decision now to reject a double standard for gay and straight behavior is heartening.

Please let ABC and Disney know that lesbians and gay men deserve the same treatment as their heterosexual counterparts, both on screen and off. Also, let them know that *Ellen* is a funny, well-written program that deserves to stay on the air, continuing to explore Ellen Morgan's personal journey as an out lesbian.

Contact: Jamie Tarses, Entertainment President, ABC, 2040 Avenue of the Stars, Los Angeles, CA 90037, fax: 310.557.7679, e-mail: abcaudr@ccabc.com; Michael Eisner, Chairman and Dean Valentine, President of Network TV and Television Animation, The Walt Disney Company, 500 South Buena Vista Street, Burbank CA 91521, fax 818.560.1930, e-mail WWW: http://www.disney.com/Mail.

Gays are part of Miss Jackson's rhythm nation

On Janet Jackson's new album, *Velvet Rope*, the superstar makes explicit her support of celebrating love in all its forms, gay, straight, or bisexual, as well as creating an upbeat anthem for the many friends she has lost to AIDS. Publicity for the album says that "Free Xone" attacks homophobia, but its lyric go beyond saying that intolerance is bad, to saying that love is universal, regardless of gender. "Boy meets boy/Boy loses boy/Boy gets cute boy back/Girl meets girl/Girl loses girl/Girl gets cute girl back," she sings.

"Free to be/Who you really are/One rule/No rules/One love/Free Xone." The song later includes a similar refrain for boy getting girl, and girl losing boy, but getting "cute girl back." The song is linked to the next track, a dance song called "Together Again," which is about "letting go of the pain, but holding onto the memories" of those lost to AIDS.

Lastly, in a remake of Rod Stewart's "Tonight's the Night," she retains its original lyrics, singing, "Tonight's the night/It's gonna be alright/Cause I love you, girl."

In an October 7 USA Today interview, Jackson says, "I'm just tired of it. I have friends who are having a difficult time coming out. They're playing different characters with different people and not being themselves."

Janet Jackson's new album, which is in undoubtedly going to be a megahit, speaks powerfully and unequivocally about the power of simply accepting and celebrating people for who they are and who they love, regardless of sexual orientation.

Please let Janet Jackson and Virgin Records know how much their support of diversity means.

Contact: Janet Jackson, and Ray Cooper & Ashley Newton, Presidents, Virgin Records, 338 N. Foothill Road, Beverly Hills, CA 90210, e-mail: virgin@media.virginrecords.com.

Reparative therapy rejection in Pine Valley

On October 6-7, *All My Children* completed an outstanding

storyline confronting so-called "reparative therapy" and the real damage it can do to people. Throughout the last several months, openly gay youth Kevin Shefield (Ben Jorgensen) has endured "treatment" by a so-called "reparative therapist" named Dr. Chapman in order to try to reconcile with his mother, who abandoned him when he came out.

On October 6, Kevin's brother tells him that no brother of his could be a "fag," and therefore Kevin is no longer his brother. Reflecting back on the many rough experiences he's been through, Kevin decides to leave Pine Valley. He gives the folksy and well-intended Opal a letter for his best friend, a young woman named Kelsey, telling her of his plan to leave. Opal has been in support of the therapy until now, thinking that "changing" Kevin would be best for him.

On October 7, Palmer, Kevin's surrogate father after his parents abandoned him, tells Opal that she needs to support Kevin, explaining that the quack doctor has only thrown the teenager into emotional turmoil, turning him from a good kid with a high self-esteem into a depressed and frantic person. Palmer confronts the evil Dr. Chapman and Kevin's mom, telling Dr. Chapman he will go to the media to expose him for the fraud he is. Opal tells Kevin's mom, who is seeking Opal's support for her bigotry, "As sure as there is a heaven, you'll be in hell for the way you're treating your boy." After a long conversation, in which Kelsey tells Kevin that "you're the best thing that ever happened to me," she convinces him how valuable he is in her life and to many people in Pine Valley and urges him to stay. He realizes the evening sky's "nothingness and sparkles" are representative of the beauty of life and a reason to live and stay where he is loved.

According to GLAAD sources on the show, this storyline has received much support and little criticism, and writers on the show feel it is some of their best work of the year. Still, this groundbreaking plot for soap operas deserves strong support from fair-minded viewers. Please applaud ABC Daytime for Kevin's continued presence on AMC and the ongoing plot about his sexual orientation and the discrimination based on it. It is especially important that women ages 18-49, daytime's main demographic, respond. In addition, encourage ABC, CBS and NBC daytime to add more lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender characters to their soap rosters. Contact:

- ABC Daytime, 77 W. 66th Street, New York, NY 10023-6201;
- NBC Daytime, 3000 W. Alameda Ave., Burbank, CA 91523;
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HRC picks Ellen's mom as Coming Out spokesperson

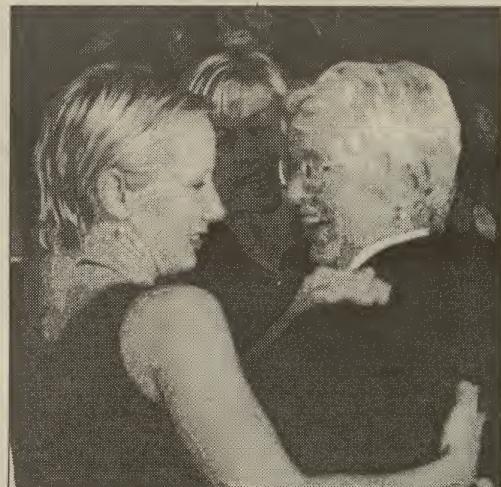
by Karen Ocambe

Ellen DeGeneres clutched girlfriend Anne Heche's hand and wiped away tears as her mother Betty became the first heterosexual spokesperson for the Human Rights Campaign's National Coming Out Day Project Sunday, October 12. "To have a mom like this, not only to accept me and love me but to come out and be a spokesperson and travel - I'm so proud of her," Ellen told a handful of reporters after the program at Universal City.

"It's mutual," Betty DeGeneres replied. "I'm so proud of her. That's why I'm doing it."

And while Ellen conceded that she's a "mush anyway," prone to crying at commercials, she underscored the importance of the job. "Someone told me that between the work that my mother and I are doing, we're saving about five lives a day," the sit-com star said. "And when you think about the teen suicide and the gay-bashing - people that are beaten up and kicked out of their families - I'm so proud of her." Asked how she felt about Betty referring to her as a daughter, film actress Heche said, "I love it. It's an honor and a pleasure. I refer to her as my mom. It's fantastic."

The whole event had a "family feel" as members of Parents and



Anne Heche, Ellen DeGeneres and mom Betty DeGeneres at the HRC event.
David Grotel

Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) joined former HRC/NCOP spokespeople Dan Butler (*Frasier*), Candace Gingrich, and Chastity Bono (now Entertainment Media Director for Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation), HRC executive director Elizabeth Birch, and GLAAD executive director Joan Garry, as well as other notables such as openly gay politician Zeke

Zeidler, Project 10's Virginia Uribe, and Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund's Jon Davidson for the reception.

"This is the day we've been waiting for a long, long time," said Adele Star, who founded PFLAG out of her home 21 years ago. "To have a celebrity come out and have the parents of a celebrity - it's just wonderful." Betty De-

page 16 ►

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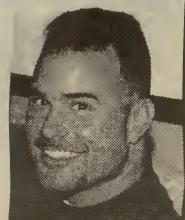
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Gay men and monogamy

by Daniel Geer,
MSW, MA, ADTR

Monogamy? You don't want me to fill that out, I've never been monogamous."

That was just one of the diverse and emotionally charged responses to my 18-question survey about monogamy that 250 gay men completed at the 1995 Folsom and Castro Street Fairs. Others said, "I'm so glad someone is doing something to support monogamous couples."

Although we are more open in discussion of monogamy than our straight counterparts, many gay couples have no agreement about how or whether to discuss their fears, concerns, and needs regarding monogamy. It is often viewed as an "unspoken" issue leading to mistaken assumptions, misunderstandings, and conflict. Given the research indicating that gay men are less likely than straights to be monogamous, my mission as a San Francisco State University Social Work graduate student was to learn more about how men negotiate this issue in their relationships.

It is important to acknowledge that the accuracy of survey data regarding sexual behavior is known to be limited, since respondents often do not answer honestly, even when survey tools are designed to control for this phenomenon. A complicating factor in discussion of monogamy is the definition of the term itself. Some men separate emotional and sexual monogamy, with

the priority on emotional commitment. For others, the two are inseparable. Still others negotiate an agreement in which anonymous sex is separated from dating or sleeping with others. For the purposes of this article and the study, monogamy is defined as "having sexual contact with one partner only."

The results of the survey support recent studies on monogamy and confirm trends in behavior among gay men since the early 1980s. During the sexual revolution, a well-known study showed 82% of gay men having some degree of non-monogamy in their relationships. By 1990, a study showed only 37% non-monogamy among couples; however, a study in 1995 and this study completed in 1996 show a close to 50/50 split between those who claim to be always monogamous and those who do not [see pie chart]. These changing figures seem to reflect, in part, the impact of the AIDS epidemic. In the late 1980s, researchers predicted a continuing decrease in the amount of sexual activity outside relationships due to HIV/AIDS; however, this has not occurred to the degree predicted. Many men either never stopped having outside sexual experiences, or have begun to explore them again.

Safety then, safety now

The conclusion that most men have reached, that "safe sex

works," has re-opened the question of monogamy versus non-monogamy as more a matter of preference, and what feels most natural, than a matter of fear of contracting HIV. While HIV was rated as the "most important" factor influencing decisions about monogamy and has prompted some gay couples to strive for or

eight-year monogamous relationship. I feel that there was safety from AIDS in being monogamous. Now I feel that there are safe options for having outside anonymous sex."

The study indicates that more gay men endorse monogamy and honesty as values than actually practice them in their relationships on a long-term basis. Of the men who identified as monogamous, 37% reported having had sex outside the relationship.

These data indicate that some men who identify as monogamous do, at least on occasion, have outside sex, and they find maintaining monogamy difficult.

This "belief/behavior discrepancy" or "thought/action gap" as it is sometimes called, is a well-known aspect of human behavior – particularly regarding sexual behavior. This phenomenon has significant implications in making conclusions about monogamy in gay as well as straight relationships. It may be unrealistic to expect those who make a commitment to a monogamous relationship to maintain it forever. Incidence of outside sex may not be a matter of people intentionally lying, or an inherent flaw in men gay or straight, but rather a human condition in which our behavior often falls short of our stated values and goals.

As stated by one respondent, "An honest relationship can cope with slips, and we all slip."

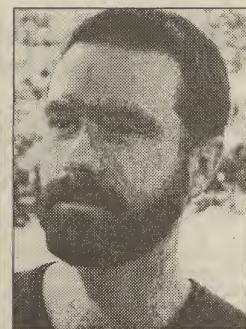
Another perspective more bluntly stated, "A hard dick cancels all pre-nuptial agreements."

96%, 66%, 17%, hmmm...

The belief/behavior discrepancy is most striking when comparing the value of honesty to the way it is handled in practice. Ninety-six percent claim honesty is a key factor in dealing successfully with the monogamy issue. However, when asked by their partner about their sexual behavior outside the relationship, only 66% claim to always tell the truth. When asked if they initiate telling their partner about outside sexual contacts, the numbers drop off sharply – with only 17% saying they always tell their partner. (It should be noted that for some couples, it may be part of their spoken or unspoken outside sex agreement not to talk about it. As one respondent wrote, "It's part of our agreement not to kiss and tell.")

The questions regarding outside sex agreements confirmed previous data concluding that "rulemaking" is the primary means of negotiating an outside sex agreement. The majority of the subjects with outside sex agreements reported that the agreement includes rules and conditions such as "only when out of town," or "never with the same guy more than once." When explicit agreements about outside sex are made, some couples report they are less likely to hide an outside sex incident. The critical issue is that gay men must decide what is right and most natural for them, much as they do during the coming-out process. Additionally, they must share this with their partners in an ongoing way.

A high percentage of respondents rated jealousy and emotional security as "very important" factors influencing their decisions about monogamy. This supports



Daniel Geer

gay men's stories describing the difficulty in balancing personal freedom with emotional security and the needs of their partner. For example, one man stated, "In a relationship, there should be a middle ground that strives for emotional and physical security yet leaves some options open for outside sexual contact." Another man describes his attempt to balance conflicting needs in this way: "In my relationship, we've agreed to be aware that sleeping with others would bring up issues we probably were not prepared for – thus we could sleep with others and didn't."

Still another states, "I don't believe nature intended monogamy, but it is an issue of compassion and care for more than yourself." The men surveyed also confirmed that these needs and accompanying conflicts change over the course of a relationship and vary between relationships.

The monogamous type?

Through countless discussions with survey respondents, colleagues, and friends, several key views about monogamy emerged. One view holds that some men by nature are the "monogamous type," and that some men simply are not. For example, one man stated monogamy is "natural for some – not for others," while another wrote, "It's not a decision, it just is."

A common opinion expressed by those who do believe in monogamy is that those who don't are in some way weak, insecure, or unable to commit. For example, one respondent stated, "I believe most men fall into non-monogamous behavior because it is the easy path." Others expressed feeling that "non-monogamous people are so due to insecurity."

Another commonly expressed point of view holds that those who claim to be completely monogamous are either lying, in denial, submitting to the societal rule, or all of the above. A number of people stated they believe that "all men will eventually cheat if forced into monogamous relationships." Still others stated, "We expect it because of old traditions and standards," and "I believe most men are not capable."

Interestingly, about 80% of those surveyed believed that "men in general are not monogamous." Apparently, the majority of men who claim to be monogamous believe that most men are not. This demonstrates the difficulty gay men have trusting and accepting each other's differences about monogamy.

Many of the men I talked with argued that their way is the right way or the correct way. I believe that there is room for a range of beliefs and practices. Monogamy is an issue that needs to be talked about among lovers and friends to begin removing the shroud of fear, secrecy, lies, and guilt that often surround the subject. Gay

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Paid Advertisement

October 16, 1997

An Open Letter to the Attorney General of the United States of America

Dear Attorney General Janet Reno:

At the risk of sounding paranoid and delusional, allow me to voice my anger and concern about mind control and the manipulation of the American political process and the American people.

The technology does exist that can turn human beings into cyborgs. It is only because this fact is covered up by the press that I must bring this issue to the public in this manner. I believe that American presidents are the victims of mind control as a result of events in our recent past. I will cite several instances. For example, either the secret service men who were guarding President Kennedy were co-conspirators and traitors or through the use of mind control were rendered unable to react properly to save JFK.

I believe that the attempt upon President Reagan in 1981 was in fact a kidnapping, as I myself was kidnapped by the CIA in 1989 for having exposed in 1987 the CIA's selling of cocaine to pay for its covert operations. For this, I was implanted with mind control devices. Others who are in the resistance movement against the police state and I will confirm that anyone who opposes or is considered a threat to the ruling elite* (*Whose symbol, The Pyramid, appears on the back of the one dollar bill.) is subjected to mind control, psychological warfare, drugging and hypnotism. This fact must be exposed.

I call upon you, Attorney General Reno, to stop it. I request that a full investigation be launched by the Justice Department to retaliate against the saboteurs of liberty and to bring them to justice. This is within your power. Speaking as a victim of mind control, I wish to say in conclusion that history will judge us not on what we do but upon what we fail to do, and the issue will be who is responsible.

Sincerely,

Richard H. Anderson

Richard H. Anderson
Founder, Human and Environmental Rights Outcry
PO Box 426397
San Francisco, CA 94142-6397

References: "Mind Control and the Psyber Socialized Society," Dr. Jose M.R. Delgado; "Robopaths: People as Machines," Lewis Yablonsky; "A World Wired for Death," San Francisco Chronicle, Nov. 1970.

Male sex workers on monogamy

by Mark Mardon

Should gay men stop being so sexually promiscuous and instead strive for monogamous relationships? Should they embrace the institution of marriage? Should they sanitize their image in order to fully integrate into mainstream society?

Almost every academic and political scientist seems to have expressed an opinion on these questions lately, yet one important sector of gay society seems oddly silent on the subject: sex professionals, the people who get paid for doing what most of us — when we're lucky — do for free. Just ask any gay male prostitute or pornographer what he thinks the prospects are for gay men reining in their promiscuity and embracing monogamy, and chances are you'll get a down-to-earth response like that of San Francisco sex worker and porn model Robert Rodriguez:

"Men are pigs. Men are pigs with women, and men are pigs with men. It's sort of man's nature. Men think about sex all the time. You won't be able to stop it, or control it."

Former porn model Robert Kirsch, who now co-owns and operates Titan Media, a porn-production company, concurs. "It's a male-hormone thing to always seek other partners," he said. "The male ego is about either 'fuck it or kill it,' whereas female energy is about nurturing and gathering."

Perhaps their phrasing is not as delicate as might be, but, then, neither is sex always vanilla. And Rodriguez, Kirsch, and others in their trade deserve to be listened to, because in some senses they're more credible than academics when it comes to speaking on the nature of gay men's sexual proclivities. They're highly successful at what they do, and in their line of work, the key to success is understanding men's desires and satisfying them. If men are disinclined to be monogamous, if they want to indulge in nasty, promiscuous behavior, surely these sex experts know it — and capitalize on it in the American way. Any attempt to restrict or channel gay men's impulses in unnatural ways, these sextors aver, is doomed to failure.

Forced assimilation?

The issue of promiscuity versus monogamy in the gay community, says Robert Bray, former media director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and current program director for the Institute for Alternative Journalism, "comes at a time when there is a cultural debate happening in America around the perceived need to domesticate, desexualize, and sanitize gay and lesbian images and our community in the face of HIV and AIDS, and at a time when we're trying to make ourselves more palatable and acceptable to mainstream society."

Sex workers and those in the sex industry, says Bray, "offer almost an antidote to what is rapidly becoming the forced administration of a mainstream assimilationist medicine for gay and lesbian people."

Prostitutes, adds Bray, have long played the traditional role of allowing gays to follow their desire and to create a sexual identity around it. "Now," he says, "this role has become even more important in this time of a new Puritanism."

Far from trying to convince gay men to be monogamous, says

sex worker Rodriguez — a classically trained musician who turned to prostitution as a lucrative means of indulging his passion for competitive speed skating — the best thing to do is to allow more freedoms for gay sexual expression in all its myriad forms, in part by organizing clubs and play spaces where it can occur safely but otherwise unfettered. "If those aren't there," he cautions, "there's going to be sex going on somewhere, some Highway 101 pit stop where you can go in the woods and have sex, or some city park. Men are still going to have sex. That's never going to change."

Yet another lean, attractive, and highly sought-after sex-worker, Scotty, also believes that men in general, and gay men in particular, are inclined toward promiscuity. "I've had friends who claimed they were in monogamous relationships, when they really weren't," he says. "They were putting on a façade for everyone, including themselves."

The fact is, Scotty observes, guys who buy into the ideal of monogamy very often get into situations' fraught with jealousy, envy, and suspicion, and hypocrisy, and sneaking around. They'll have 20 relationships in a year, and try to make them monogamous. But they all end in failure."

While it's highly debatable whether all men fall into the "fuck or kill" category, Kirsch, who sees himself as "just your average guy with a decent body," makes sense when he says that "trying to fit the gay community into this heterosexual mold we've been given is difficult. Not everyone's going to respond to it. Some people will, and that's great. They should be able to find that. But to always ex-

pect two males of the species to fall into that type of behavior is asking for trouble."

Unsafe=dirtier=sexier?

One important reason to hear what sex workers have to say on this matter is the cautionary note they sound over the prescription of monogamy for gay men as a preventive measure against the further spread of HIV and AIDS.

The fact is, says porn star and sex worker Clark Kent (his working name), "people lie." The person you're in a long-term, committed relationship with may slip and never tell you: "What if your boyfriend goes out and gets drunk and gets fucked and then doesn't get tested?"

And unfortunately, says 24-year-old prostitute Christopher Diem, "There is a huge feeling in gay culture now that unsafe sex is dirtier, nastier — and therefore sexier. There's a million ways you can say why that is. Maybe it's because it's been so demonized, and lots of gay kids go for the taboo. And it's lack of effort, almost laziness, or just not caring, not exercising forethought."

And it's a shame."

"I think safe sex is our ticket to sexual freedom," says fellow prostitute Scotty, "because as long as there's disease and death around sex, we're going to have the new Puritans on our backs. If we can show that we can have sex and not become infected, then they really don't have an argument."

Yet prostitutes must daily contend with many gay men's urges to indulge in forbidden acts. "I get lots of requests for unprotected sex," says Clark Kent, who at 28 remains negative despite having per-

page 28 ▶

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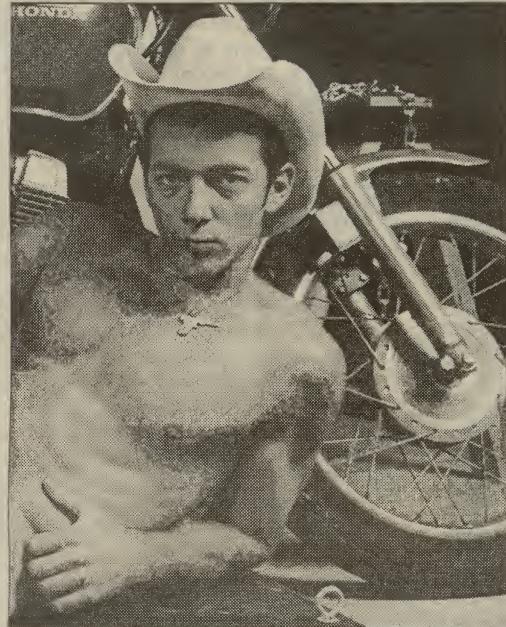
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Clark Kent (not a mild-mannered reporter for a metropolitan newspaper).

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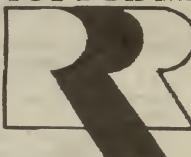
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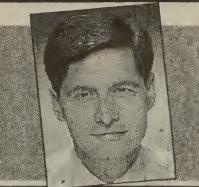
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No budget work listed among Ventresca's official job duties

by Cynthia Laird

City treasurer candidate Joel Ventresca has a dozen responsibilities listed on his current job description as a management assistant at San Francisco International Airport (SFO), but budget and policy analysis-related work is nowhere among them, SFO Personnel Director James Ilnicki told the *Bay Area Reporter* Thursday, October 9.

Ventresca wrote an angry letter to the *B.A.R.* on October 13 accusing the newspaper of "deliberately and knowingly" misleading voters by not mentioning budget duties he claims are part of his job. (See "Joel vents," below.)

Throughout the campaign, Ventresca has repeatedly listed his occupation as "budget and policy analyst" with the airport's Facility Operations and Maintenance Division (FOM). Last Wednesday, October 8, he conceded that currently he does not do budgetary work, but said he did budget work in the past. Ventresca maintains the term "budget and policy analyst" accurately reflects his job at SFO. "The record is there, all the projects I've worked on, I believe it is an accurate description," he told the *B.A.R.* on October 8.

Innicki said last week that "to the best of my knowledge, he does not do budget work."

Last week, Ventresca faxed an undated "Duties and Responsibilities" list to the *B.A.R.* that was apparently revised on April 18, 1997. The document lists "JV" as principal author and lists three budget-related duties, including "assists in the preparation of the division annual budget."

Innicki, however, said Ventresca's current job description, signed off by a supervisor in April 1997, does not list any budget-related tasks. "I verified those duties with someone higher in the chain of command, who does supervise Joel," Ilnicki said in an interview October 14. He added that if budget-related work was part of Ventresca's responsibilities, it should be listed on his job description, which is reviewed annually.

The 12 duties currently performed by Ventresca, as stated on his job description, are:

- Prepares, compiles, and processes FOM construction

contract documents.

- Tracks and logs progress reviews; prepares contract award notices for FOM contracts.
- Compiles and processes FOM agenda packages for SFO Airport Commission meetings.
- Serves as coordinator for SFO's student awareness program.
- Serves as a member of SFO's industrial safety committee.
- Serves as an alternate to the FOM's executive safety and health advisory committee.
- Serves as a member of the city-wide Buy Recycled and Source Reduction Committee.
- Conducts pre-bid meetings with project engineers and architects.
- Conducts bid openings for all FOM contracts.
- Coordinates pre-construction meetings with project team.
- Serves as airfield security in-

strutor.

- Processes all legal advertisements for all airport departments.
- Assists scheduling staff in preparing contract agreements and reports.

Innicki said that Ventresca does not supervise other employees "as a regular part of his duties. Cyclically, he may exercise ad hoc supervisory responsibilities."

The one exception to that involves Ventresca's work running the student mentoring program. "He coordinates those meetings and handles that," Ilnicki said. The program involves high school students who are linked with mentors at SFO and learn about different jobs.

Although the civil service job classification for Ventresca's position, management assistant, lists budget-related items, Ilnicki said the job characteristics merely "set

forth the parameters of a management assistant's job for positions throughout San Francisco." According to the city's Department of Human Resources, there is no civil service job title of "budget and policy analyst" among the 1,700 different job classifications.

Ventresca has held the same civil service classification, management assistant, since starting work at SFO in January 1987.

The San Francisco Treasurer is responsible for decisions regarding the city's approximate \$2.5 billion investment portfolio, overseeing the tax collector's department and supervising over 150 employees. The other candidates in the November 4 race to succeed retiring Treasurer Mary Callanan are Supervisor Susan Leal and immigrant rights activist Lucrecia Bermudez. ▼

Joel vents

October 13, 1997

Dear Editor:

Your newspaper falsely claims that I have misled the public, but it is your newspaper that has deliberately and knowingly misled voters of San Francisco (see "Leal foibles fudges credentials" by Cynthia Laird, page one, and "Someone to treasure," page six, *Bar Area Reporter*, Vol. 27, Number 41, October 9, 1997).

Here are the facts.

Budget and policy analyst accurately depict the professional work I have performed successfully while employed at the San Francisco International Airport for the last 10 years. I continue to be directly involved with budget and financial matters concerning the division and department. However, I have never represented that this title was an official or a civil service system position Classification.

Throughout my tenure of employment at the Airport, I have been directly involved with the preparation of the division budget over several budget cycles.

The most recent detailed written description of my specific job responsibilities [dated April 18, 1997] approved by management at the airport include the following:

- Assists in the preparation of the division annual budget.
- Assists in budget development, administration, and financial analysis.
- Prepares financial and programmatic reports and schedules that analyze the operation and performance of division sections.
- Prepares and processes invoices, purchases, TPA's

[Term Purchase Agreements], Professional Service Contracts, and other accounting documents.

This document was provided to your reporter, Cynthia Laird, via fax, shortly after I was interviewed on October 8, 1997. That Cynthia Laird chose to ignore this definitive information underscores the fact that the aim of her article was not to inform or elucidate but rather to promote a political agenda: the election of Susan Leal as Treasurer. There was no bona fide reason for misreporting information as your article did.

Your reporter's irresponsible false claims are based on one Airport source who has never supervised me and who obviously does not hold or have detailed knowledge of my past or present work at the Airport. I stated clearly to your reporter that presently, I am not as directly involved with the annual budget preparation process because I have been assigned additional work. However, I continue to work on financial and budget-related projects at the Airport.

It is understandable, even respectable, that a lesbian/gay newspaper would support a lesbian/gay candidate, but it is not acceptable to imply unethical misconduct when you were in possession of factual proof to contrary.

I have clearly stated my qualifications, honestly represented professional expertise, and at no time have I misled the voters. Your paper has made false statements to the contrary. Basic journalistic integrity would seem to demand some modicum of fairness, thus an immediate correction or retraction is expected from the *B.A.R.*

— Joel Ventresca,
Candidate for Treasurer

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Easements by prescription begin as easements simply through unchallenged use by the landowner for a specified number of years (usually 10-20). To avoid such an occurrence, the landowner must periodically make a formal objection to "start the clock over."

The most familiar type of easement is *easement appurtenant* that allows access to public roads and is used to create driveways and walkways for subdivided parcels. This type of easement should be treated by both landowners (and beneficiaries) as actual land parcels to be described and recorded meticulously.

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VIRACEPT is a powerful new protease inhibitor now available for the treatment of HIV infection when anti-HIV drug therapy is warranted. VIRACEPT is generally well-tolerated, is taken three times a day with your normal meals or light snacks, and requires no special dietary restrictions.

Most importantly, VIRACEPT is effective. In many people, VIRACEPT lowered the amount of HIV in the blood to levels below the limit of detection of the test used, and substantially increased CD4 cell counts after 24 weeks of triple combination therapy. And in laboratory studies, HIV obtained from five patients that became resistant to VIRACEPT was not resistant to other protease inhibitors. (The clinical significance of laboratory studies of protease inhibitor

resistance and changes in viral RNA levels in blood has not been established for VIRACEPT. The virus may still be present in other organ systems.)

People treated with VIRACEPT may experience some side effects; the most common is mild to moderate diarrhea in approximately 20% of people in clinical trials. There are some common medications and some AIDS-related medications you should not take with VIRACEPT. It is important to discuss with your doctor all other medications that you are taking.

We still can't make any long-term promises, since it is not yet known whether taking VIRACEPT will help you live longer or reduce the number of infections or other illnesses that can occur with HIV. But we can tell you that yesterday's HIV beliefs are quickly becoming today's myths.

Talk to your doctor about VIRACEPT, and begin to consider something new. Or for more details, call toll free **1-888-VIRACEPT** or visit www.agouron.com.

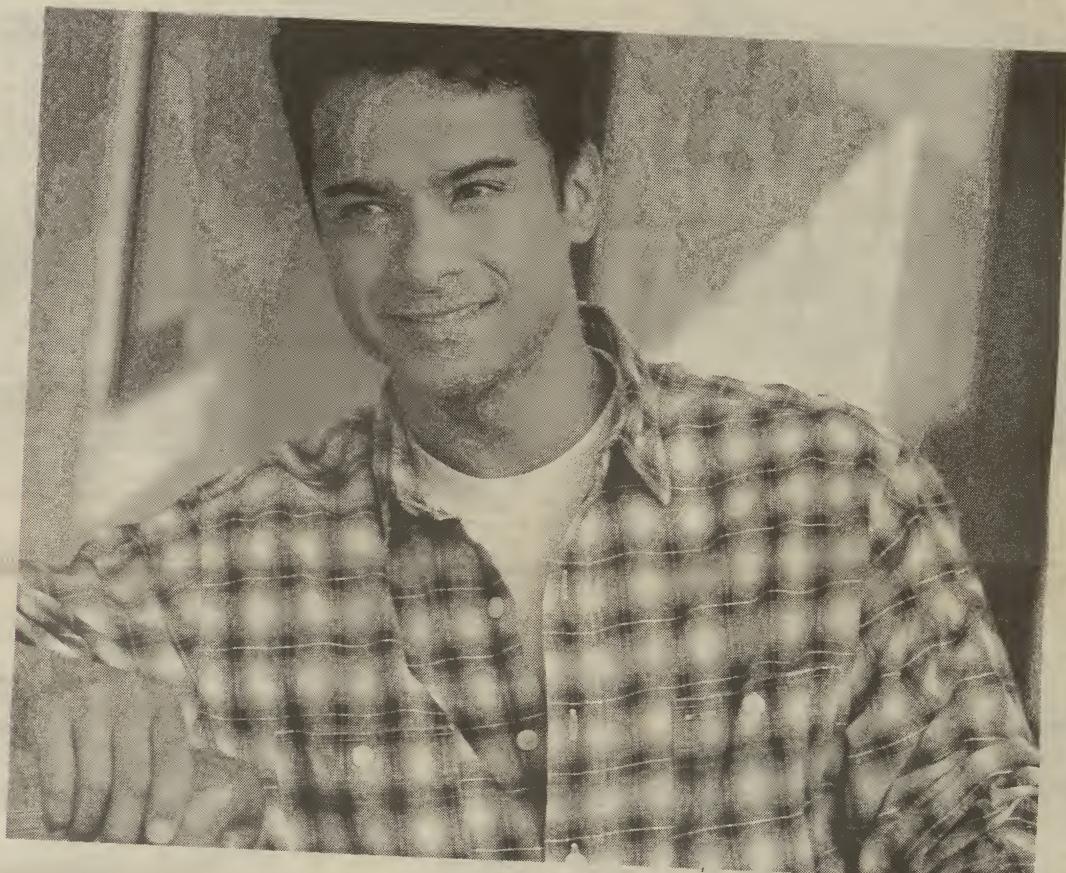
VIRACEPT[®] nelfinavir mesylate

Refer to the important information on the next page.



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VIRACEPT

nelfinavir mesylate

TABLETS AND ORAL POWDER

BRIEF SUMMARY: For complete prescribing information, see package insert.

VIRACEPT is indicated for the treatment of HIV infection when antiretroviral therapy is warranted. This indication is based on surrogate marker changes in patients who received **VIRACEPT** in combination with nucleoside analogues or alone for up to 24 weeks. At present, there are no results from controlled trials evaluating the effect of therapy with **VIRACEPT** on clinical progression of HIV infection, such as survival or the incidence of opportunistic infections.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

VIRACEPT is contraindicated in patients with clinically significant hypersensitivity to any of its components.

WARNING

Patients with Phenylketonuria: **VIRACEPT** Oral Powder contains 11.2 mg phenylalanine per gram of powder.

VIRACEPT should not be administered concurrently with terfenadine, astemizole, cisapride, triazolam or midazolam, because competition for CYP3A by nelfinavir could result in inhibition of the metabolism of these drugs and create the potential for serious and/or life-threatening cardiac arrhythmias or prolonged sedation.

PRECAUTIONS**General**

Nelfinavir is principally metabolized by the liver. Therefore, caution should be exercised when administering this drug to patients with hepatic impairment.

Resistance/Cross Resistance: Because the potential for HIV cross resistance between protease inhibitors has not been fully explored, it is unknown what effect nelfinavir therapy will have on the activity of subsequently administered protease inhibitors. (See MICROBIOLOGY in complete prescribing information.)

Hemophilia

There have been reports of increased bleeding, including spontaneous skin hematomas and hemarthrosis, in patients with hemophilia type A and B treated with protease inhibitors. In some patients, additional factor VIII was given. In more than half of the reported cases, treatment with protease inhibitors was continued or reintroduced. A causal relationship has not been established.

Information For Patients

For optimal absorption, patients should be advised to take **VIRACEPT** with food. (See Pharmacokinetics and DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION)

Patients should be informed that **VIRACEPT** is not a cure for HIV infection and that they may continue to acquire illnesses associated with advanced HIV infection, including opportunistic infections.

Patients should be told that the long-term effects of **VIRACEPT** are unknown at this time. They should be told that there is currently no data demonstrating that **VIRACEPT** therapy can reduce the risk of transmitting HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

Patients should be advised to take **VIRACEPT** every day as prescribed. Patients should not alter the dose or discontinue therapy without consulting with their doctor. If a dose is missed, patients should take the dose as soon as possible and then return to their normal schedule. However, if a dose is skipped, the patient should not double the next dose.

The most frequent adverse event associated with **VIRACEPT** is diarrhea, which can usually be controlled with non-prescription drugs, such as loperamide, which slow gastrointestinal motility.

VIRACEPT may interact with some drugs; therefore, patients should be advised to report to their doctor the use of any other prescription or non-prescription medication.

Patients receiving oral contraceptives should be instructed that alternate or additional contraceptive measures should be used during therapy with **VIRACEPT**.

Drug Interactions

Nelfinavir is an inhibitor of CYP3A (cytochrome P450 3A). Coadministration of **VIRACEPT** and drugs primarily metabolized by CYP3A may result in increased plasma concentrations of the other drug that could increase or prolong both its therapeutic and adverse effects. Nelfinavir is metabolized in part by CYP3A. Coadministration of **VIRACEPT** and drugs that induce CYP3A may decrease nelfinavir plasma concentrations and reduce its therapeutic effect. Coadministration of **VIRACEPT** and drugs that inhibit CYP3A may increase nelfinavir plasma concentrations.

Based on known metabolic profiles, clinically significant drug interactions are not expected between **VIRACEPT** and dapsone, trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole, clarithromycin, azithromycin, erythromycin, itraconazole or fluconazole.

Antihistamines

Terfenadine: Administration of terfenadine with **VIRACEPT** resulted in the appearance of unchanged terfenadine in plasma; therefore, **VIRACEPT** should not be administered concurrently with terfenadine because of the potential for serious and/or life-threatening cardiac arrhythmias. Because a similar interaction is likely, **VIRACEPT** should also not be administered concurrently with **astemizole**.

Anti-HIV protease inhibitors

Indinavir: Coadministration of indinavir with **VIRACEPT** resulted in an 83% increase in nelfinavir plasma AUC and a 51% increase in indinavir plasma AUC. The safety of this combination has not been established.

Ritonavir: Coadministration of ritonavir with **VIRACEPT** resulted in a 152% increase in nelfinavir plasma AUC and very little change in ritonavir plasma AUC. The safety of this combination has not been established.

Saquinavir: Coadministration of saquinavir with **VIRACEPT** resulted in an 18% increase in nelfinavir plasma AUC and a 39% increase in saquinavir plasma AUC. If used in combination, no dose adjustments are needed.

Antifungal agents

Ketoconazole: Coadministration of ketoconazole with **VIRACEPT** resulted in a 35% increase in nelfinavir plasma AUC. This change was not considered clinically significant and no dose adjustment is needed when ketoconazole and **VIRACEPT** are coadministered.

Little or no change in the pharmacokinetics of either drug was observed when **VIRACEPT was coadministered with **lamivudine** or **stavudine**.**

Anti-HIV reverse transcriptase inhibitors

Didanosine: It is recommended that didanosine be administered on an empty stomach; therefore, nelfinavir should be administered (with food) one hour after or more than two hours before didanosine.

Zidovudine: Coadministration of zidovudine and lamivudine with **VIRACEPT** resulted in a 35% decrease in zidovudine plasma AUC. A dose adjustment is not needed when zidovudine is administered with **VIRACEPT**.

Little or no change in the pharmacokinetics of either drug was observed when **VIRACEPT** was coadministered with **lamivudine** or **stavudine**.

Antimycobacterial agents

Rifabutin: Coadministration of rifabutin and **VIRACEPT** resulted in a 32% decrease in nelfinavir plasma AUC and a 207% increase in rifabutin plasma AUC. It is recommended that the dose of rifabutin be reduced to one-half the usual dose when administered with **VIRACEPT**.

Rifampin: Coadministration of rifampin and **VIRACEPT** resulted in an 82% decrease in nelfinavir plasma AUC. **VIRACEPT** and rifampin should not be coadministered.

Oral Contraceptives

Ethinyl estradiol and norethindrone: Coadministration of **VIRACEPT** with OVCON-35 resulted in a 47% decrease in ethinyl estradiol and an 18% decrease in norethindrone plasma concentrations. Alternate or additional contraceptive measures should be used during therapy with **VIRACEPT**.

Carcinogenesis and Mutagenesis

Carcinogenicity studies in animals have not yet been completed. Nelfinavir was not, however, mutagenic or clastogenic in a battery of *in vitro* and *in vivo* tests including microbial mutagenesis (Ames), mouse lymphoma, chromosome aberrations in human lymphocytes, and an *in vivo* rat micronucleus assay.

Pregnancy, Fertility and Reproduction – Pregnancy Category B

Comparisons of systemic exposure are based on the steady-state area under the plasma concentration time curve (AUC) observed in humans receiving the recommended therapeutic dose. Nelfinavir produced no effects on either male or female mating and fertility or embryo survival in rat studies at exposures comparable to human therapeutic exposure. There were also no effects on fetal development or maternal toxicity when nelfinavir was administered to pregnant rats at systemic exposures comparable to human exposure. Administration of nelfinavir to pregnant rabbits resulted in no fetal development effects up to a dose at which a slight decrease in maternal body weight was observed; however, even at the highest dose evaluated, systemic exposure in rabbits was significantly lower than human exposure. Additional studies in rats indicated that exposure to nelfinavir in females from mid-pregnancy through lactation had no effect on the survival, growth, and development of the offspring to weaning. Subsequent reproductive performance of these offspring was also not affected by maternal exposure to nelfinavir. However, there are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Because animal reproduction studies are not always predictive of human response, **VIRACEPT** should be used during pregnancy only if clearly needed.

Nursing Mothers

The US Public Health Service Centers for Disease Control and Prevention advises HIV-infected women not to breast-feed to avoid postnatal transmission of HIV to a child who may not yet be infected. Studies in lactating rats have demonstrated that nelfinavir is excreted in milk. It is not known whether nelfinavir is excreted in human milk.

Pediatric Use

Nelfinavir was studied in one open-label, uncontrolled trial in 38 pediatric patients ranging in age from 2 to 13 years. In order to achieve plasma concentrations in pediatric patients which approximate those observed in adults, the recommended pediatric dose is 20-30 mg/kg given three times daily, not to exceed 750 mg three times a day. (See DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION.)

A similar adverse event profile was seen during the pediatric clinical trial as in adult patients. The evaluation of the antiviral activity of nelfinavir in pediatric patients is ongoing.

The safety, effectiveness and pharmacokinetics of nelfinavir have not been evaluated in pediatric patients below the age of 2 years.

ADVERSE REACTIONS

The safety of **VIRACEPT** was studied in over 1500 patients who received drug either alone or in combination with nucleoside analogues (d4T or ZDV/3TC). The majority of adverse events were of mild intensity. The most frequently reported adverse event among patients receiving **VIRACEPT** was diarrhea, which was generally of mild to moderate intensity.

Drug-related clinical adverse experiences of moderate or severe intensity in ≥2% of patients treated with **VIRACEPT** coadministered with ZDV plus 3TC (Study 511) or in combination with d4T (Study 506) for up to 24 weeks are presented in Table 1.

Table 1—Percentage of Patients with Treatment-Emergent[†] Adverse Events of Moderate or Severe Intensity Reported in ≥2% of Patients

Adverse Events	Study 511 Naïve Patients		Study 506 Experienced Patients			
	Placebo + ZDV/3TC (n=101)	500 mg TID VIRACEPT +ZDV/3TC (n=97)	750 mg TID VIRACEPT +ZDV/3TC (n=100)	Placebo + d4T (n=109)	500 mg TID VIRACEPT +d4T (n=98)	750 mg TID VIRACEPT +d4T (n=101)
Body as a Whole						
Abdominal Pain	1%	0	0	3%	2%	4%
Asthenia	2%	1%	1%	4%	3%	1%
Digestive System						
Diarrhea	3%	14%	20%	10%	28%	32%
Nausea	4%	3%	7%	1%	3%	2%
Flatulence	0	5%	2%	4%	8%	3%
Skin/Appendages						
Rash	1%	1%	3%	0	4%	3%

[†] Includes those adverse events at least possibly related to study drug or of unknown relationship and excludes concurrent HIV conditions.

Adverse events occurring in less than 2% of patients receiving **VIRACEPT** in all phase II/III clinical trials and considered at least possibly related or of unknown relationship to treatment and of at least moderate severity are listed below.

Body as a Whole: accidental injury, allergic reaction, back pain, fever, headache, malaise, and pain.

Digestive System: anorexia, dyspepsia, epigastric pain, gastrointestinal bleeding, hepatitis, mouth ulceration, pancreatitis and vomiting.

Hemic/Lymphatic System: anemia, leukopenia and thrombocytopenia.

Metabolic/Nutritional System: increases in alkaline phosphatase, amylase, creatine phosphokinase, lactic dehydrogenase, SGOT, SGPT and gamma glutamyl transpeptidase; hyperlipemia, hyperuricemia, hypoglycemia, dehydration, and liver function tests abnormal.

Musculoskeletal System: arthralgia, arthritis, cramps, myalgia, myasthenia and myopathy.

Nervous System: anxiety, depression, dizziness, emotional lability, hyperkinesia, insomnia, migraine, paresthesia, seizures, sleep disorder, somnolence and suicide ideation.

Respiratory System: dyspnea, pharyngitis, rhinitis, and sinusitis.

Skin/Appendages: dermatitis, folliculitis, fungal dermatitis, maculopapular rash, pruritus, sweating, and urticaria.

Special Senses: acute iritis and eye disorder.

Urogenital System: kidney calculus, sexual dysfunction and urine abnormality.

Laboratory Abnormalities
Few patients experienced significant laboratory abnormalities while receiving **VIRACEPT**. The percentage of patients with marked laboratory abnormalities in Studies 511 and 506 are presented in Table 2. Marked laboratory abnormalities are defined as a Grade 3 or 4 abnormality in a patient with a normal baseline value or a Grade 4 abnormality in a patient with a Grade 1 abnormality at baseline.

Table 2—Percentage of Patients by Treatment Group With Marked Laboratory Abnormalities[†] in >2% of Patients

	Study 511 Naïve Patients		Study 506 Experienced Patients			
	Placebo + ZDV/3TC (n=101)	500 mg TID VIRACEPT +ZDV/3TC (n=97)	Placebo + d4T (n=109)	500 mg TID VIRACEPT +d4T (n=98)	750 mg TID VIRACEPT +d4T (n=101)	
Hematology						
Hemoglobin	6%	3%	2%	0	0	0
Neutrophils	4%	3%	5%	1%	1%	4%
Lymphocytes	1%	6%	1%	1%	1%	0
Chemistry						
ALT (SGPT)	6%	1%	1%	1%	3%	2%
AST (SGOT)	4%	1%	0	0	3%	3%
Creatine Kinase	7%	2%	2%	4%	5%	6%

[†] Marked laboratory abnormalities are defined as a shift from Grade 0 at baseline to at least Grade 3 or from Grade 1 to Grade 4.

OVERDOSAGE

Human experience of acute overdose with **VIRACEPT** is limited. There is no specific antidote for overdose with **VIRACEPT**. If indicated, elimination of unabsorbed drug should be achieved by emesis or gastric lavage. Administration of activated charcoal may also be used to aid removal of unabsorbed drug. Since nelfinavir is highly protein bound, dialysis is unlikely to significantly remove drug from blood.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Adults: The recommended dose is 750 mg (three 250 mg tablets) three times daily. **VIRACEPT** should be taken with a meal or light snack. Antiviral activity of **VIRACEPT** is enhanced when **VIRACEPT** is administered in combination with nucleoside analogues. Therefore, it is recommended that **VIRACEPT** be used in combination with nucleoside analogues.

Pediatric Patients (2-13 years): The recommended oral dose of **VIRACEPT** for pediatric patients 2 to 13 years of age is 20-30 mg/kg per dose, three times daily with a meal or a light snack. (See complete prescribing information for dosage table.) For children unable to take tablets, **VIRACEPT** Oral Powder may be administered. **VIRACEPT** Oral Powder should not be reconstituted with water in its original container.

HOW SUPPLIED

VIRACEPT (nelfinavir mesylate) Tablets, 250 mg are light blue, capsule-shaped tablets engraved with "VIRACEPT" on one side and "250 mg" on the other.

Available as:

NDC 63010-010-27, bottle containing 270 tablets

VIRACEPT (nelfinavir mesylate) Oral Powder, 50 mg/g is an off-white powder containing 50 mg (as nelfinavir free base) in each level scoopful (1 gram).

Available as:

NDC 63010-011-90, multiple use bottle containing 144 grams of powder with scoop.

VIRACEPT Tablets and Oral Powder should be stored at 15° to 30° C (59° to 86° F).

Issued 3/14/97

Call 1.888. VIRACEPT

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Wilson kills breast cancer hopes

by Marghe Covino

Governor Pete Wilson vetoed Assemblymember Carole Migden's AB 760, which would have required managed healthcare HMOs to pay for Autologous Bone Marrow Transplant (ABMT) treatments for their patients with breast cancer if such treatments were recommended by the patient's physician, on Friday, October 10.

As Migden pointed out, "Earlier in the legislative session the governor said he would veto any bill which affected managed care until his Managed Health Care Task Force issues its report, due out early next year."

Still, she said, "While we knew there was a significant chance the bill would be vetoed, we hoped

the governor would recognize that signing the bill was a matter of life and death for some people with breast cancer and, because the bill made so much sense, it would not be in conflict with the Task Force's work." Unfortunately, he did not see it that way."

Marie Fitts and Dianne Terrell of Sacramento's Life Support Cancer Project were upset at the apparently cavalier attitude over the lives of women. "A member of the governor's staff needed a bone marrow transplant a few weeks ago, and his office issued a press release throughout the state in a search for donors," Terrell said, "so he obviously knows the urgency and importance of such treatment."

"What are we supposed to think other than this is outright protection of big business at the

expense of women's lives?"

Fitts talked about work that went into the passage of the bill, saying, "It's so bitterly disappointing to think of the work and energy expended on this bill, and the hope it engendered in the women who need this treatment — who will now have to beg, plead, and sue for a chance to live."

"And we haven't even touched the subject of the availability of diagnosis and treatment for poor women and women of color. Withholding treatment from the dying is outrageous. The governor's concerns about his Task Force are ludicrous. Given the lives of women, their families, their children, and even grandchildren, which he has rendered hopeless with the stroke of his pen — I wonder how he can sleep at night." ▼

Josh Puckett

◀ page 1

company had no idea the youth had a prior criminal background or had been arrested for murder. Tearsheets or zed card for Puckett were not available.

"He was in development stage, but we never got that far. He's been out of touch," a spokesman said.

Apparently, Puckett was well-known in some Castro area gay circles. Details of how he survived and where he lived are sketchy at press time. Puckett had known Poliakov only a brief time before the killing. In the week before his

death, Poliakov had expressed excitement to friends about recently meeting and spending time with the youth.

Poliakov, a Russian émigré who operated an import-export business, had last been seen alive on August 31 at Club Universe, a Townsend Street dance venue popular with the lesbian and gay community. Reported missing on September 4, Poliakov's body was found a week later in Paloma Creek near San Luis Obispo. The body was identified by fingerprint comparison.

Authorities believe Puckett

and an accomplice stuffed Poliakov's body into the trunk of the victim's silver 1997 model Mercedes Benz after the murder, and drove to the San Luis Obispo site to dump the body.

Twenty-three-year-old Atascadero resident Mardi Kusner was arraigned in Contra Costa County on October 1 on charges connected to the case.

A decision about whether Puckett will stand trial for Poliakov's death is expected by the end of the month. Contra Costa County Assistant District Attorney Barry Grove told the B.A.R. that he had no comment, except that he was reviewing the facts of the case. ▼

Wilson

◀ page 1

Laurie McBride said, "This is clear presidential posturing. Wilson is pandering to the right-wing votes he thinks he needs for a Republican primary. This is a governor who claims to be against discrimination and in favor of strong law enforcement — but when he had a chance to protect some of the most vulnerable members of society, he failed to pass the test."

"Unfortunately, the people who will suffer will be the most in need — gays, lesbian and bisexual women and people of color — all are a part of this diverse group we call the 'gay community,' all would have been greatly helped by AB 257."

Last week, LIFE Lobby delivered over 6,000 letters in support of AB 257 to Wilson's office — to no avail. But McCormick insists, "This bill will be introduced over and over again until we have a governor that listens to the people."

HIV work bill vetoed

On Sunday, Wilson also vetoed AB 1099, which would have enabled people with disabilities such as HIV/AIDS to return to work and earn up to \$2,500 a month without losing the Medi-Cal coverage that pays for medical treatment.

The bill's author, Assemblymember Carole Migden, said, "We are bitterly disappointed to learn of the veto, as this was a humane and appropriate measure to address a unique social and medical problem."

Migden's bill was designed to address situations faced by people with HIV/AIDS who have experienced improvements to their health with new therapies and who are now physically able to return to work. However, the prospect of having to pay for treatments that can reach \$1,800 a month, and a job market that either may not offer health insurance or have limitations and exclusions, is a strong disincentive.

"Many individuals have experienced improved health as a consequence of treatments which give them an opportunity for a more dignified life," Migden said. "Moreover, the state would have realized revenues in the form of state income tax."

The bill had garnered virtually universal support in both houses of the legislature, and most expected Wilson to sign the measure. ▼



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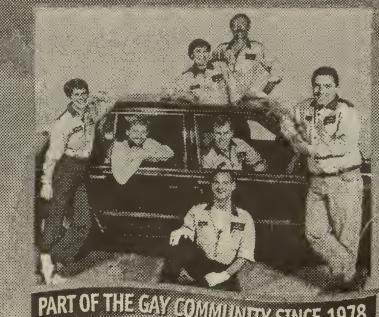
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First gay event at Asian Art Museum

Japanese art, AIDS activism to benefit community center

by Cynthia Laird

History will be made at the Asian Art Museum this Monday, October 20, when the museum hosts a pre-opening reception for an exhibit by Japanese artist and AIDS activist Masami Teraoka, to benefit the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Community Center Project (CCP). The fundraiser will be the first gay/lesbian event ever held at the Asian Art Museum, located in Golden Gate Park.

Paintings by Masami Teraoka, an exhibition of 33 paintings and four prints by the internationally

acclaimed artist, will be on view at the Asian Art Museum beginning Wednesday, October 22.

Teraoka is expected to be on hand at Monday's reception. Donations are \$45 per person, which includes membership to the community center.

"This exhibition presents the work of a major contemporary artist at work with the themes of multiculturalism, modern sexuality, and the AIDS epidemic," said Bill Goulet, marketing director for the Asian Art Museum. "While Masami Teraoka's message is for everyone, it is a particularly poignant one for those who are coming together to build the new

community center."

CCP board members are especially pleased to be part of history when the museum opens its doors for the upcoming benefit reception. "I think it's wonderful and am hoping it will be the first of many events the Asian Art Museum will hold for the gay community," Randy Miller, CCP's vice president, told the B.A.R. "I think the event is going to be fabulous."

Many of the paintings and prints that will be on exhibit are over eight feet tall, and highlight Teraoka's provocative commentary on contemporary issues such as AIDS, sexuality, cultural identity, and technology, while incor-

porating artistic traditions of the past. Complementing these works are 21 Japanese 19th century woodblock prints from Teraoka's private collection, most of which are by Utagawa Kuniyoshi (1786-1865), whom Teraoka cites as the influence for much of his art.

"Masami Teraoka conveys his views of late-20th century dilemmas such as gender, identity, sexuality, and technology using a style that is both visually arresting and provocative," said Emily Sano, director of the Asian Art Muse-

um after his first solo exhibition at the Whitney Museum of Art in New York in 1979. Since then he has exhibited widely both in the U.S. and abroad. Teraoka has lived in Hawaii since the 1980s.

"The Asian Art Museum is pleased to be a sponsor of the upcoming benefit for the Community Center Project," Goulet said.

Joining the Asian Art Museum in co-sponsoring Monday's reception are the Gay Asian Pacific Alliance (GAPA), the National Center for Lesbian Rights (NCLR),



Bad dream: Masami Teraoka, AIDS Series/Geisha and AIDS Nightmare, 1989-1990 (watercolor).

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um. "This exhibition by a world-renowned contemporary artist such as Masami Teraoka is one of many upcoming exhibitions ... that will highlight the contemporary arts of Asia."

Men's Associated Exchange (MAX), Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights (BAPHR), and Visual Aid/Artists for AIDS Relief.

The Teraoka exhibit runs through January 25, 1998. ▼

About the artist

Teraoka was born in 1936 in Onomichi, a Japanese harbor city along the Inland Sea of Seto. He received a bachelors degree in aesthetics from Kwansei Gakuin University in 1959, and continued his studies in the United States, graduating from the Otis Art Institute, Los Angeles, with a masters of fine arts degree in 1968.

He received international ac-

complishment. "This exhibition by a world-renowned contemporary artist such as Masami Teraoka is one of many upcoming exhibitions ... that will highlight the contemporary arts of Asia."

The reception benefiting the community center takes place from 6 to 9 p.m. in Grunin Court at the Asian Art Museum. For more information, call (415) 864-8523 or visit the community center's web site at www.sfgaycenter.org. Teraoka's web site is www.lava.net; the museum's web site is www.AsianArt.org.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

SF starts PEP program

by Cynthia Laird

It's another first for San Francisco in HIV/AIDS research: the pilot phase of a landmark project to study the safety and feasibility of postexposure prevention, or prophylaxis (PEP), was launched Monday, October 13. PEP involves people receiving counseling and taking HIV medication following high-risk sexual or injection drug use (IDU) exposures; the study is being developed by researchers at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF), the San Francisco Department of Public Health (DPH), and UCSF's Center for AIDS Prevention Studies (CAPS).

While the study is not yet open for enrollment, the pilot phase began this week at Ward 86 of San Francisco General Hospital and the City Clinic, at 356 7th Street. Participants will be offered intensive behavioral counseling to avoid future exposures, HIV testing over a one-year follow-up period, and antiviral medication for those who choose to take it. People who believe they have been exposed to HIV infection within the last 72 hours can call a 24-hour phone line; there's another phone number for information about PEP.

There has been much public attention about PEP across the country and in the city. A community advisory board was formed here earlier this year and has featured some lively debates about the potential risks and benefits of widespread availability of PEP.

"I'm happy this debate is going

on," Dr. Thomas Coates, CAPS director and principal investigator of the project, told the B.A.R. "People are complacent about prevention. Maybe this is a wake-up call."

Coates said the researchers decided to announce the study now because of community concerns. "We feel it is essential to begin now. The project is still in the planning and pilot stages, and we need to clarify any potential misunderstanding about the study or about PEP," Coates said. "HIV postexposure prevention is an attempt to reduce infection among those exposed to HIV recently, specifically within the last 72 hours. This strategy seems to be effective among those exposed to HIV occupationally, for example, healthcare workers."

The pilot phase incorporates all aspects of the study, Coates said, and will give researchers time to fine-tune the project. People who meet eligibility requirements now will be offered the drugs and counseling components.

UCSF and DPH researchers will be studying whether PEP is safe for individuals and for communities, whether individuals will comply with a difficult treatment regimen, whether they can take anti-HIV drugs without significant side effects, and whether they can be counseled to modify their risk behavior. "The study will also include a component to determine community response," Coates said. "For instance, does risk-taking in the community increase when PEP is introduced?

"It is important that people understand that this study is not to examine whether postexposure treatment is effective; that will need to be a much more complicated long-term study," continued Coates. "The aim of this study is to determine the characteristics of individuals who are exposed to HIV, to look at what kinds of past exposure prevention practices they follow, and whether they comply with their treatment regimens."

"I think of PEP as a maximum opportunity to try to prevent further exposures. The really important thing is the behavioral counseling."

Concerns

Interim Health Director Dr. Mitch Katz, co-principal investi-

page 31 ►

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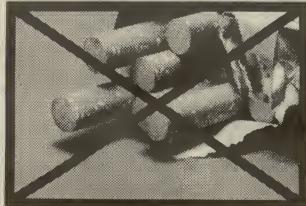
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CALIFORNIA LAVENDER SMOKEFREE PROJECT

Lesbian health study proceeds

by Bob Roehr

The Institute of Medicine conducted a workshop on lesbian health research priorities in Washington, DC on October 6-7. It is part of an unprecedented \$200,000 study that should wrap up with a report next summer.

"The big news is that they are even funding this study," said Marj Plumb, policy director with the San Francisco-based Gay and Lesbian Medical Association.

Donna Futterman MD, a researcher at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, said, "We know that coping skills, self-care behavior, and health-seeking behavior are established early and have an impact on a lifetime of interactions with the healthcare system. It should be no surprise that delay in health-seeking and lack of preventive services and gynecological care is a consistent finding in research of lesbians of all age groups."

But she cautioned, "We have only begun to scratch the surface, and much of the information we have obtained may not remain relevant because the social and cultural environment continues to change."

Sex

One of the major problems facing researchers is the very definition of who is a lesbian. Since the average age of awareness of same-sex feelings has dropped from about 16 to nine or 10, is the

label "lesbian" a question of self-identity, sexual acts, or a combination of the two?

"Lesbians don't have sex as often as do heterosexual cohabiting couples, gay male couples, and married heterosexual couples," said Esther Rothblum, a researcher at the University of Vermont. "But on the other hand, lesbians often define sex more broadly. So how do you count that? What about people who live together and call themselves partners, yet have never had sex? The 1990s have just brought up so many problems."

"Most lesbians have been heterosexual active," Futterman said. Perhaps 20 percent of younger women at a lesbian bar are concurrently having sex with men.

Rothblum found that younger lesbians have more male partners "because now, with gender-blending, they feel freer to have sex with men and women." Anecdotal evidence is that they tend to seek out heterosexual men and keep their same-sex activities hidden from those men.

Women bear the burden of STD morbidity because transmission from male to female is much easier than the reverse. Jonathan Zenilman MD, at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, noted that only a dozen research papers have been written that focus on lesbians and sexually transmitted diseases.

He differentiated between the STDs that can be easily identified and cleared from the body and

"herpes, Human Papilloma Virus — which is the cause of genital warts and [98 percent of] cervical cancer — and HIV," which once acquired are permanent conditions. Women in an extended phase of exclusive same-sex activity are at low risk for the former, while risk for the latter is determined by one's entire sexual history and the pattern of their partners' sexual activity. He strongly urged Pap smears as the best way to detect and prevent cervical cancer.

Findings

Deborah Bowen, with the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle, is conducting a large-scale breast cancer screening program. That research leads her to believe that lesbians may not suffer a higher rate of breast cancer. She believes such conclusions may have been based upon faulty sampling techniques. And she worries that "in some ways, we might be negatively affecting folks" with misinformation.

Rothblum's research "found heterosexual women and gay men to be more preoccupied with their weight and to report lower ideal weight than do lesbians or heterosexual men."

Money is reflected in the mix of sex, gender, and identity. Labor economist Lee Badgett said that lesbians are more likely than heterosexual women to work full-time. There seems to be little difference in their levels of income. "Gender is more important to determining income than sexual orientation," she said, but cau-



Marj Plumb

tioned against assuming that a household with two gay males will have a significantly larger income. "Gay men earn about 25 percent less than comparable heterosexual men," she observed.

Institutional bias

One area in which researchers agreed was that social stigma in both study and delivery of care remains a major impediment.

Plumb pointed to the "amount of concern" over study design and sampling when applying for funding or attempting to get research published on lesbian issues. "When was the last time a piece of research on the homeless was sent back because it was not representative?" Is this not "lesbian-phobia?" she asked.

"It seems to me what is driving the research on these other populations is the perceived need for the information," said Jocelyn

White MD, a researcher at the Oregon Health Sciences University. But she doesn't get that same sense of urgency from funders and editors on lesbian issues.

She urged that researchers not get hung up on creating an ideal research framework. "It's like saying, if my child can't be a brain surgeon, then I don't want to have a child." They must work around the bias and create knowledge that is useful, even if still imperfect.

Others reported that research on lesbian health issues has met with a cool reception in acquiring mentors and research funding. A quarter of all researchers said that publicly identifying as lesbian or studying the subject had a negative impact on their employment and promotion opportunities.

White cited data on barriers to care that lesbians face. She posed a research question that removing these barriers would lead to improved care. And she recommended "having all patients engaged in the healthcare process ... looking for providers who are also engaged in the relationship."

Plumb noted that past Institute of Medicine reports have led almost immediately to funding of research projects by the National Institutes of Health. She wondered if that will happen when this report is completed. That will be the next key step in the evolution of lesbian healthcare. ▼

Institute of Medicine reports are available on the Internet at either nac.edu or nas.edu.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

October is busy month for NTFAP

Confabs, grants, beneficiary of DJ bash

by Cynthia Laird

Things are extremely busy at the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention (NTFAP) right now; this week, the organization is hosting two conferences on gay men of color and HIV/AIDS issues — one on each coast — and it will be the beneficiary of the Global DJ Mix Awards show in San Francisco this Sunday, October 19. Also this month, the task force announced one of its programs has received much-needed grant funding from the Horizons Foundation.

This Monday, October 20, a one-day meeting entitled "The Gay Men of Color HIV Prevention Community Implementation Workshop" will be held at NTFAP's San Francisco office, located at 973 Market Street. It will address HIV prevention community implementation.

Three days later, NTFAP's eighth annual "Gay Men of Color AIDS Institute" will commence in Newark, New Jersey, running from October 23-27.

By and for men of color

Mario Solis-Marich, chief executive officer of NTFAP, said the San Francisco workshop is being done in collaboration with Polaris Research and Development, Inc. The goal is to assemble California's diverse communities of gay men of color to address their needs, and develop recommendations for the implementation of community outreach, public relations, and social marketing campaigns for the state of California.

California's HIV prevention document states, "Generally, gay and bisexual men of color believe that the most effective HIV prevention programs for their risk group are those run specifically by and for men of color. They also believe that their own understanding of the needs and backgrounds of their own cultural group is most effective in overcoming barriers to accessing men of color who are having sex with men."

Workshop highlights will include a prevention mobilization morning press conference, a plenary session, afternoon planning sessions, and two-hour ethnic specific focus groups for African-American, Asian/Pacific Islander, Latino, and Native American attendees.

Stephen Oxendine, interim director of national programs for the task force, and Joel Reyna, Jr., NTFAP's director of local programs, said that recent statistics showing a decline in the rates of infection among gay and bisexual white men make it clear that the desired results can be realized when the proper resources are available, along with a community's own intuitive, culturally specific, and appropriate messages. "The Gay Men of Color HIV Prevention Community Implementation Workshop" seeks to mobilize the same resources and develop culturally sound programs for gay men of color communities in order to reduce the rate of new HIV infection.

The workshop is expected to lead to recommendations and



Just some of the talent appearing at the awards show Sunday. Tickets are \$15 at the door, which opens at 1015 Folsom at 8 p.m.

guidelines for the state to consider as officials develop their campaign to reach gay and bisexual men of color.

Polaris Research and Development is a social research, media, and training organization based in San Francisco. For the past several years, Polaris has contracted with the state Department of Health Services, Office of AIDS, in developing HIV/AIDS prevention social marketing strategies for California's diverse population.

And in New Jersey

At NTFAP's eighth annual "Gay Men of Color AIDS Institute," over 250 gay and bisexual men who identify as Native American, Asian/Pacific Islander, Latino, or African-American will gather to formulate plans, network, teach, and learn during the four-day conference. It is the only annual conference that focuses on information sharing, program development, and capacity building for gay and bisexual men of color; organizers said that representatives of community-based organizations, AIDS service organizations, social service and medical providers, community activists, and interested community members are encouraged to attend.

This year the conference will focus on program design and evaluation issues, community planning, empowerment, implications of new treatment options, and young people in the epidemic. Newark was selected as the meeting site because of the city's significance for communities of color organizing and current data suggesting the devastating impact of HIV/AIDS of gay men of color in the area.

The conference has been recognized by several academic institutions. Faculty and staff from Columbia University, New York University, Rutgers University, Drew University, the HIV Center for Clinical and Behavioral Studies, and the University of California, San Francisco's (UCSF) Center for AIDS Prevention Studies are actively involved in planning and organizing the national conference.

Numerous sponsors have also signed on, including the New Jersey Department of Health; the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs, the Paul Robeson Campus

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Free joints!!**Feds approve medical pot research at UCSF**

by Liz Highleyman

After years of seeking federal approval to study medical marijuana, Dr. Donald Abrams and colleagues of the University of California, San Francisco/San Francisco General Hospital won approval last week from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to conduct the first federally-sponsored study of how the drug works in people with HIV/AIDS.

Abrams's previous attempts to study medical marijuana were stymied first by the NIH and then by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), which refused to allow access to government-grown cannabis. According to Dave Fratello of Americans for Medical Rights, a proponent of last November's Proposition 215 medical marijuana ballot initiative, "Approval of this study was a long time coming.... Clearly, federal officials got a black eye during last year's Proposition 215 campaign when their stalling of Dr. Abrams's study was exposed."

The study will involve 63 people and will last for two years. The study received \$1 million in funding from the NIH. Participants will be housed for three weeks in spe-



Dennis Peron

cially-ventilated rooms at SFGH; only 3-4 people will participate at a time due to space limitations. The volunteer subjects will receive \$1,000. The study is expected to begin by the end of the year.

The research will study the safety of marijuana in people who are taking protease inhibitor

drugs, including adverse reactions and marijuana/protease inhibitor interactions. One study group will receive three marijuana cigarettes per day, a second group will receive the synthetic THC-derived Marinol pill, and a third group will receive a placebo. Protease inhibitors affect liver enzymes and influence the metabolism of many other drugs, in some cases leading to potentially dangerous drug interactions. Marijuana and the protease inhibitors are metabolized by the same liver enzymes, and the level of one or the other drug could be raised or lowered. Abrams stated, "I'm happy we've evolved to the point where we can ask some very important scientific questions."

The study will also look at the effectiveness of medical marijuana in promoting weight gain in people with AIDS-related wasting. According to Dennis Peron of the Cannabis Cultivators Club, "I know this experiment will work, because I know marijuana gives you the 'munchies.' Now let's prove our point." ▼

NTFAP

◀ previous page

Foundation to support its social marketing campaign targeting African-American gay and bisexual men. New Village plans to launch a visibility campaign to reinvigorate HIV prevention efforts and encourage those living with HIV/AIDS to access treatment and care prior to the onset of the disease.

The campaign, described as a model of community wellness, comes at a time when the San Francisco Department of Public Health AIDS Office projects that 16 percent of those living with HIV infection in the city are African-American, nearly double the entire African-American population in the city. Of this figure, 74 percent are gay and bisexual

men, including gay and bisexual injection drug users. This rate of infection shows a continually rising seroprevalence rate of 59 percent for this same population, according to NTFAP.

New Village provides a variety of HIV prevention services targeting African-American gay, bisexual, and transgender city residents. ▼

For more information or to register for the October 20 workshop in San Francisco, call Stephen Oxendine at (415) 356-8133. For information about the conference in Newark, call Gavin Morrow-Hall at (415) 356-8130 or Vince Sales at (415) 356-8109. For information about services available at New Village, call (415) 356-8140.

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HEALTH NEWS

Gonorrhea in gay men on the increase

by Liz Highleyman

Gonorrhea rates among gay and bisexual men are on the rise, according to a recent study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The results of the Gonococcal Isolate Surveillance Project, which tracked gonorrhea rates at sexually transmitted disease (STD) clinics in 26 U.S. cities, were reported in the September 26 issue of the agency's *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*. The report also included results from a substudy of gonorrhea rates at STD clinics in eight large cities, which also included data about other STDs, sexual risk behaviors, drug use, and HIV status.

In San Francisco, gonorrhea cases among men who have sex with men increased by 24% from 1994 to 1995. This increase comes after a dramatic decline in gonorrhea cases in 1980s as men adopted safer sex practices to prevent the transmission of HIV. According to interim Department of Public Health director Mitch Katz, there were 100 cases of rectal gonorrhea in 1995, and 136 cases in 1996. This compares to over 5,000 cases in 1980. The number of cases may have reached a plateau in 1997, with 84 cases having been reported so far this year. Cases of urethritis not due to gonorrhea increased by 40% from 1993 to 1995.

Large increases in gonorrhea incidence were also reported in Seattle (125% increase from 1994 to 1996) and Portland (124% in-

crease from 1995 to 1996), with lesser increases in Denver, Orange County, San Diego, Long Beach, and Honolulu.

High rates of gonorrhea and other STDs are associated with high rates of HIV infection. Among men with gonorrhea at STD clinics in San Francisco, Seattle and Portland, 25% were also HIV positive. Several studies have shown that the presence of gonorrhea and other STDs enhances the transmissibility of HIV. Dr. Helene Gayle of the CDC said that infection with gonorrhea or other STDs may increase the risk of HIV infection by "at least two- to five-fold."

Public health experts say that rising gonorrhea rates may signal an increase in unsafe sexual practices among gay and bisexual men that could also lead to the transmission of HIV. "This new information should serve as a wake-up call to all populations at risk," said Gayle.

The CDC survey showed that high rates of gonorrhea were associated with attendance at "certain local clubs and other places frequented by men who have sex with men" in San Francisco, Seattle, and Portland. The report did not indicate whether sex clubs or bathhouses specifically were implicated. Observations from Seattle showed that "sexual activities with anonymous partners" and "use of illicit drugs and alcohol" were associated with increased gonorrhea rates. However, the report did not specify which venues or drugs were involved, nor what types of sexual activity took place. ▼

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Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

David Cates

Dec. 12, 1957– Oct. 5, 1997



David Cates died magnificently, as he lived. In his personal battle against AIDS, he fought gallantly and long. In the end, his passing could be called nothing but a victory. He was at perfect peace with this world and embraced the next.

David was born in Henderson, Ky.; lived in the Baltimore/Washington, D.C. area for many years; and came to San Francisco in 1994 with his partner, Phil

Julian. He served in the Naval Medical Corps for six years and later became an accomplished medical research scientist. In Baltimore, he served as treasurer and as a member of the board for Moveable Feast, a massive food program for persons with AIDS. In San Francisco, he was co-founder of the Angel Project.

David was loved by many, and he loved well. He was grateful for all of life. He was an artist, a leatherman, a gentle man of incredible quiet strength. His simple, clean spirituality was an example to the light. His love was an overwhelming thing to hold. His wish for the world and for those he loved was happiness and wholeness, and both of these he gave as much as he could.

David Steven Coulam
May 2, 1958 – July 8, 1997

In San Francisco on July 8, family, friends and co-workers mourned the passing of David "Steve" Coulam. Steve was born and raised in Sacramento, but loved the excitement of San Francisco.

During his teen years, Steve worked for Channel 40, 10, 31 and 13 in Sacramento in engineering maintenance and later moved to San Francisco to become chief engineer for Channel 20. After several years he moved to Denver to become chief of Engineering and Operations for KDVR-Channel 31.

After ten years in Denver, Steve returned to San Francisco and KOFY-Channel 20 as chief engineer. He remained there for the next four years until his death. In addition to his interest in broadcasting, neon glass bending, antique radios and televisions, he maintained a steadfast affiliation with Alcoholics Anonymous for the 18 months preceding his death.

Steve is survived by his parents, Bar-

bara and Robert Coulam of Sacramento; his aunts and uncles, Shirley and Elder Buhler of Crescent City and Laura and John Coulam of Tampa, Fla.; cousins, Wendy Osiow of Garden Grove and Christopher Buhler of Bonanza, Ore.; and very dear friends, Elizabeth Wilber of San Francisco, Rev. Stewart Wilber of Atlanta and John Perry of San Jose.

At Steve's request, no services were held. A gathering of Steve's friends and family to celebrate his life took place on July 17 at his San Francisco home. Remembrances may be made to the SF AIDS Foundation.

James Edward Nagy
October 7, 1997

There has been a gift of incredible love given to us by James Edward Nagy. He left this place in body on October 7. He is survived by his parents and siblings in North Carolina, and by numer-



ous friends who loved him well. Lastly, he is survived by his long-time companion, Gregory Greer.

A memorial for James will be held at St. Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church Street, on Sunday, October 19, at 2 p.m.

Jerry Whitney Neher
Oct. 5, 1953 – Oct. 6, 1997

Jerry Whitney Neher died October 6 in an Oakland hospital, the day after his 44th birthday. A native of Mesa, Arizona, he had lived in San Pablo for the past 20 years.

Jerry worked for 10 years as a bio-chemist at Bio-Rad Laboratories in Richmond. He was a member of the Metropolitan Community Church in

partner, Patrick O'Higgins; his father, J.W. Neher of Oklahoma; brothers, Joseph Allen Neher of Arizona and Jeremy H. Neher of Mission Viejo; and sisters, Julia E. Austin of Cypress and Mary C. Zaepfel of Murieta.

A graveside service was conducted at the Rolling Hills Memorial Park in Richmond. A memorial service will be held at a later date at the MCC/SF on Eureka Street. Contributions in Jerry's name may be made to an AIDS organization of your choice.

Diane Richardson

June 10, 1963 – Sept. 28, 1997

Diane was co-chairperson of the 1973 Gay Freedom Day Parade. She lived in San Rafael. She leaves her partner, Gerry; friends, Steve, Jim and many others; and her brother, Joe, in Arizona.

Safer Sex Video Competition sponsored by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

"A lot of gay men come to their sexuality through pornography," says Church. "They may live in areas where there aren't gay organizations available, maybe not even gay bars, or they're too closeted to go to the bars. So the first introduction they get to gay culture is through gay pornography."

But Church thinks most commercial pornography, while highly successful in marketing terms, largely fails artistically — and thus is hobbled when it comes to portraying safe sex in ways that might alter behavior.

'Atomizing of sex'

At the root of all the sameness in porn video — and of male sexual compulsiveness as well — may be what philosopher and veteran gay-liberation activist Arthur Evans terms "the atomizing of sex." In his latest book, *Critique of Patriarchal Reason* (White Crane Press; 1997), Evans points to industrialism and the hegemony of scientific thinking as culprits in the breaking down of society.

"What industrialism has done," he says, "is made sex into a commodity, into treating other people as usable, disposable objects. Many times I find gay men say they're into sexual liberation, but what they have done is to compartmentalize their sex apart from questions of meaning in their life. Their sex becomes impersonal, compulsive, and meaningless. That is not liberation."

Would he say the answer is to embrace monogamy?

"No," he replies. "What it means is that it's good for people to integrate their sexual needs, whatever they may be, into their intellectual and spiritual lives, so that sex becomes part of the overall thread of meaning in their lives."

Is it possible to have that kind of a healthy interaction when you're paying for sex?

"Yes. When you pay for sex, it can be healthy, and playful, and wonderful, and not abusive to anybody. It can also be degrading, objectifying, and humiliating. It all depends on context, and on the character of the people involved."

According to Robert Bray, who lives in an open relationship with his primary partner, filmmaker Church, the trick is to foster a greater sense of humanity that includes sexual openness and frank sexual discussion, rather than objectification and secretiveness. Indeed, says Bray, that lesson may be one of the gifts gay and lesbian people have to give the world:

"We are in a position to change how society feels about sex, and the kind of sex it practices, by subverting traditional gender and straight-versus-gay roles. And sex workers and pornographers play a part in that." ▼

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HIV PERSPECTIVE

PWAs as 'canaries in the coalmines'

Birthplace of HMOs, and HMO activism

by Jeff Getty, ACT UP/
Golden Gate Writers' pool

The San Francisco Bay Area is the birthplace of the Health Maintenance Organization (HMO). Just prior to World War II, Henry J. Kaiser started the first HMO in Richmond, California. At the time, most of Kaiser's shipbuilders were rejects from the military draft. In an effort to maintain the physical health of this kind of workforce, Kaiser created a company health plan and clinic. Fifty years later, California has more HMOs than any other state; prepaid health maintenance programs and HMOs now account for 95 percent of the State's private health services, and many find problems with these organizations.

Californians started managed care — Californians may be the ones to fix it.

Fee-for-service healthcare now takes care of less than five percent of the state population. HMOs have reached a greater than 80 percent market saturation level here. When HMOs have high saturation levels, they are forced to compete for customers. In order to stay competitive, HMOs must cut services, nurses, and doctors. There is a race on to have the lowest price. According to Dr. David Mahon, an HMO activist, people with catastrophic diseases such as HIV have become the "canaries in the coalmine," testing just how low HMOs can go.

A survey released by the public relations firm Porter/Novelli in February 1996 revealed that only 10 percent of consumers thought the managed care industry was "believable." Managed care companies were thought to be more believable than only tobacco and oil companies. HMOs fell well below public opinion of car manufacturers, banks, and even drug companies in terms of trustworthiness.

In San Francisco, there are the beginnings of a new style of advocacy and activism — the HMO activist. Health Access, a nonprofit HMO watchdog and lobby group, is working on legislation and patient databases to try to help regulate how HMOs deliver care in California. David Grant is the state director and patient advocate for Health Access, a 501-3c organization supported by over 200 consumer and disease groups that raise money from labor unions and grants.

Grant's work has centered around legislation in Sacramento for the "Patient Bill of Rights," 15 laws that would help ensure appropriate health services to people with HIV and other diseases, as well as the healthy public. Grant feels that persons with life-threatening disease are likely to have problems with HMOs because these organizations are designed to make patients jump through hoops to get medical care; they are too slow — a recent study from the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA), the group that accredits HMOs) concluded that HMOs were too slow in responding to patient needs; and that competition, leading to cost-cutting, causes service reduction.

HMO tactics

According to Grant, HMOs use several tactics to curtail services to the very ill. Therapies are declared to be "experimental" and not payment-eligible — while these same therapies could be considered standard-of-care at other health centers. Doctors receive incentives not to prescribe too many drugs, and the practice of "capitation" limits the amount of time the physician can spend with a patient. Also, doctors can be part of a profit-sharing deal

with the HMO. Patients are often not told of this relationship. At Kaiser, there is a nonprofit foundation into which premiums are paid, and there is also the for-profit Kaiser Permanente Medical Group, which has a doctor profit-sharing program. "When you go see a doctor," Grant wonders, "who are they an employee of?"

At HMOs, there is an enormous crisis of confidence with the doctor. "So where you used to have a doctor-patient relationship where your only issue was how to pay for it, the problem now is when you go to the doctor, you lack confidence that they are actually recommending what you really need, or maybe they're not offering options because they will get axed by the HMO," Grant said.

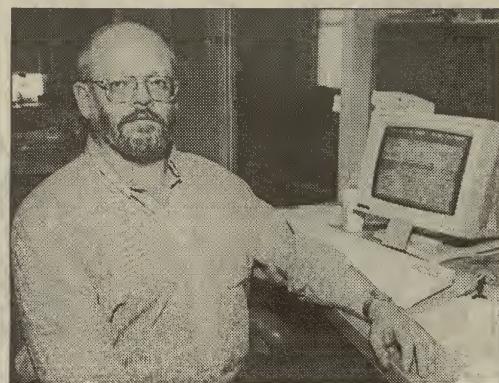
Grant sees a national HMO backlash. Forty-one states are currently trying to pass laws to regulate HMOs. There are other HMO watchdog groups popping up across the country. According to the *New York Times*, 16 states have already adopted Patient Bill of Rights laws. Texas has passed a law to allow HMOs to be subject to malpractice lawsuits. Claiming that HMOs do not make medical decisions, the HMO industry filed suit to block the new Texas law. Because California has had HMOs for so many years, this state already has a lot of HMO regulation. But many feel it is not enough.

You better shop around

How can patients with HIV deal best with managed care? Grant said that they must learn to push the buttons to get what is needed. This involves learning the system, and knowing which words cause action. He feels that patients need to shop around for the best providers and doctors. "Don't take anything at face value," he warns. When a patient is too ill to fight the system, he or she should have a patient advocate step in to continue the battle.

AIDS activists and caregivers have often taken the role as patient advocate. But others have taken on the entire system to promote change from the inside. One such activist is Dr. David Mahon. A member of ACT/UP Golden Gate and the now defunct People With AIDS Coalition, Mahon took on San Francisco Kaiser Permanente's HIV care crises.

Mahon helped form a patient advisory board that is now officially recognized by Kaiser. This board meets monthly with bi-monthly subcommittee meetings. "When we first looked into the Kaiser situation, we found that care was uneven. Some patients were getting good care, others were getting bad care," said



Health Access' Dr. David Grant: "Don't take anything at face value."

to change capitation limits for HIV doctors. According to Mahon, Kaiser now considers one HIV patient to be the equivalent of seven regular healthy patients in terms of payments to doctors. Mahon says that this is a "carve out," and that Kaiser evolved this system because doctors could not easily limit the time they spent with HIV patients.

Mahon is pushing for medical case managers at Kaiser. So far, Kaiser S.F. has hired one such manager, but there has been a lot of resistance to this move. The case manager is exactly what is needed for the very ill patients who are worn down and can't negotiate the system.

Mahon and Grant are proving that changes for better patient care are possible at HMOs. Patients are now forcing HMOs to hire personnel to overcome the obstacles put in place by HMOs to limit access and costs. It seems almost impossible that such a policy change is happening. But when public pressure in the form of City Hall hearings (as was the case with Kaiser) comes to bear, exceptions must be made to keep people alive and save face. Kaiser got caught with a dead canary. Grant's Bill of Rights will be the next step in managed care reform. ▼

Health Access wants to hear your personal HMO stories. Call them at (415) 395-7959.

load tests and access to growth hormone, and can be seen at an HIV specialty unit. Kaiser has issued an AIDS standard of care document and has improved communication between the advisory board and Kaiser doctors.

Mahon states, "Things are getting better for HIV patients. We now have four working groups meeting on different issues. We are fleshing out goals and setting priorities. I'm really pleased how HIV care has changed. It's been a 180-degree change."

Mahon has important advice to give Kaiser, advice he feels will help them compete in the HMO market. He feels that HMOs need

HIVCARE

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- no active infections

For more information, please call Sal Iacopelli at 415.353.6215

This is a phase I study for a new non-nucleoside which works in a different way than those approved.

This one month study requires one overnight stay, a 10-hour stay, and weekly visits. Compensation is \$500.

HIVCare is a non-profit, community-based clinical trial program of Saint Francis Memorial Hospital.

Breed

by Jim Provenzano

A few weeks back I mentioned being an ectomorph. Some people had a problem with that word, meaning they don't know what it means. Lacking a dictionary to hurl, I'll merely extrapolate.

In the 1940s, William H. Sheldon introduced his theory of Somatypes in two major works, *The Varieties of Human Physique* (1940) and *The Varieties of Human Temperament: A Psychology of Constitutional Differences* (1941). His theory proposed three basic body types and associated them with sets of personality characteristics.

Today, Sheldon's description of three body types has become central to much of the literature in weight loss, exercise, and bodybuilding. This system defines three distinct categories of human bodies: the endomorph, characterized by a preponderance of bodyfat; the mesomorph, marked by a well-developed musculature;



Nice chest...

and the ectomorph, distinguished by a lack of either much fat or muscle tissue. These differences were, of course, not exact in every body, and individuals can rate themselves for the three dimensions of body type they possess.

Ectomorphs are thin and lanky

types who will never get bulky. No matter how much they eat, they always stay thin, despite a bit of a paunch. I am among these ranks.

Endomorphs are those whom the Sears catalog used to refer to as husky. Barring major opportunistic infections, they will never become rail thin, and only with great effort become buff, or ripped, as bodybuilder lingo has it. You may be among these types. If you're hairy as well, you have your own bar, magazines, websites, and festivals. Lucky you.

Mesomorphs, however, are the real lucky ones, the Goldilocks' porridge that gets it just right. Or at least that is what the endless barrage of fitness mags would have us believe.

Guess what? I don't. Your gene pool has more to do with how you look than whatever kazillion lat pulls you do at Gold's. I happen to enjoy doing lat pulls at Gold's, not only because of the scenic client-

tele (YUM!), but also because the exquisite torture of working out, set to music, can be thought of as a form of pleasure. It will not transform an ectomorph into another body type, but, given that one properly attaches oneself to these metal devices, will gradually improve the demand on the muscles worked.

Torture, you say? Inane repetition? Yes, but what in life isn't?

I don't expect to be transformed into a steer when I know I'm a Guernsey ... or according to others, not even bovine, but more of a jackass. Some of us, no matter how hard we try, will never be transformed. We will be healthier, and we should take pleasure in that, as much as the pleasure of seeing those of similar and other body types in various states of undress. Them's the perks.

The real perk, though, is in seeing ourselves in the mirror and saying, "I like you." Liking the

Sports Complex



Nice calves.

bodies we've been given, along with improving them, not to the point of narcissistic obsession, as some other clientele of gyms seem to be, but of improvements. Because obsessing about being ripped, and shredded, and cut, is closer to the part of my gene pool I'd rather not dwell on, the part that comes from a country that, in the middle part of this century, created a male physical ideal that had very little to do with individuality, but a lot to do with elitist aesthetics.

They got a lot of nice statues in Italy. They don't have so many nice fascists. ▼

HIVCare

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For more information, please call

Sal Iacopelli at 415.353.6215

HIVCare is a non-profit, community-based clinical trial program of Saint Francis Memorial Hospital and is a member of AmFAR's Community Based Clinical Trials Network

pending full IRB approval

Ice during Gay Games

by Paul van Yperen

This year, the first week of August was one of the hottest in Amsterdam. Everyone was at the beach, and the only ice you could find was in drinks. Next year, same time, an ice rink will be one of the most popular spots, as hundreds of people will be competing there during Gay Games. The Ice Hockey and the Figure Skating/Ice Dancing tournaments will take place in the Jaap Eden Hal, which has to be specially frozen for the Gay Games. (Therefore, it is one of our most expensive locations). The location contract was signed Friday, October 3 by Jos Pronk, Director of the Sportscomplex, and by Jip van Leeuwen, our Director of Sports.

After a spectacular demonstration by the Amsterdam Huskies, an ice hockey team of people with disabilities, Figure Skating Tournament Co-ordinator Daan Boer announced that as of the first of September there were already 78 participants for the tournament. Among them were 62 people of the USA.

The Jaap Eden Hal is world-famous in Holland, but how does an American think about it? We asked the opinion of Bill Wassmer, the co-chairman of Team Seattle, who visited Amsterdam recently.

Bill said, "I participated in the Gay Games in Vancouver and New York. In New York, I won the silver medal for figure skating, and I also participated in the ice hockey team of Seattle. I checked out the Jaap Eden Hal, where the figure skating and ice hockey will take place: a beautiful place where 2,000 people can easily watch the show. The Dutch people, who may not be so familiar with the above sports, are going to love it!" ▼

COMMUNITY NEWS

Stop AIDS

◀ page 10

rare opportunity to spend an afternoon relaxing among the rolling hills or strolling around the pond on this privately owned ranch that stretches for more than a square mile. It's like another world!"

Guests will enjoy a lavish buffet prepared by some of San Francisco's most popular restaurants and caterers, including Carta, Chow, El Rios, Indigo, Laghi, Montesi, Rendezvous Du Monde, and others. A silent auction will also be held.

Leifield is passionately committed to the continued need for funding of Stop AIDS' HIV prevention programs, especially at a time when increased hope has caused individual giving to wane. "In addition to a beautiful after-

noon, attendees will help raise critical dollars for our HIV prevention programs in San Francisco," stated Leifield.

Guests can purchase tickets at \$100 each, or at the Patron level of \$250. Those unable to attend are invited to purchase tickets at the \$100 level for those who otherwise would be unable to attend. Individual underwriting will ensure that the full price of each ticket will directly benefit the HIV prevention programs of the Stop AIDS Project. ▼

For tickets, directions, more info, or to attend the event, call K.C. Price, Stop AIDS Project, at (415) 621-7177 x257. Interested parties can also send donations directly to Stop AIDS Project at 201 Sanchez Street, SF, CA 94114.

PEP

◀ page 23

gator of the PEP study, said that while the project is "a reflection of the tremendous progress that has been made in HIV treatment, as public health officials and researchers, we want to emphasize that avoiding exposure through effective prevention is preferable to any treatment."

One of the concerns researchers have is that study participants not expose themselves further to potential HIV infection by looking upon the PEP study as a "safety net" that allows them to continue to practice unsafe sex. "This is not intended to be chronic treatment for a person with chronic high-risk exposures," Coates said.

There is also the issue of compliance. If a person does not take the prescribed drugs as directed, Coates pointed out, the drugs will not be effective for the person.

A third major area of concern and aim of the study is to determine what kinds of toxicities the participants experience from taking the anti-HIV drugs. "We want to study carefully what kinds of reactions our study participants may have to these treatment regimens," Katz said.

Some AIDS activists have repeatedly stressed drug toxicity as the reason not to have the PEP study.

Coming in January

The study, which will open in January 1998, will enroll 500 people over a three-year period. Participants must be at least 14 years old. They will be tested for HIV

and, if the person is HIV antibody and HIV virus negative, he or she will receive combination treatment with effective anti-HIV agents. Each participant will receive treatment for four weeks and will then be seen by physicians in the clinic for a total of 53 weeks.

If the person is already HIV-infected, he or she will be referred to other primary care providers.

An application for funding the study is being reviewed by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). ▼

People who believe they've been exposed to HIV within the last 72 hours can call 502-5 PEP 24 hours a day. For information and eligibility requirements, people should call the California AIDS Hotline at (800) FOR-AIDS.

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LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 217405

The following person(s) are doing business as MAYTA COMMERCIAL, 11 Merlin St., San Francisco, CA 94107: Louis Thomas Maya, 1548 Hoover Ave., Burlingame, CA 94010. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of September 18, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Lou Maya. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on September 18, 1997.

Sept. 25, Oct. 2, 9, 16, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 217377

The following person(s) are doing business as 1. SMMBS, 2. SHOW ME THE MONEY BILLING SERVICE, 3. Harriet St. #5, San Francisco, CA 94103; Ron L. Pendell, 33 Harriet St. #5, San Francisco, CA 94103. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Ron L. Pendell. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on September 18, 1997.

Sept. 25, Oct. 2, 9, 16, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 217617

The following person(s) are doing business as BOT N ZIP, 5491 Mission St., San Francisco, CA 94112: Raquel Centinaje, 30 Hahn St., San Francisco, CA 94134. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of September 25, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Raquel Centinaje. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on September 25, 1997.

Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 217684

The following person(s) are doing business as WORDWRIGHT TEXT EDITORS, 1630 Noe St., San Francisco, CA 94131: Paul Matalucci, 1630 Noe St., San Francisco, CA 94131. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of September 29, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Paul Matalucci. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on September 29, 1997.

Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 216910

The following person(s) are doing business as HYDE-4-U-FINE FOODS, 125 Hyde Street, San Francisco, CA 94142: Yehya Abdulla Hassan, 2278 Lombard Street, San Francisco, CA 94123. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Yehya Hassan. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on August 27, 1997.

Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23, 1997.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Date of Filing Application: Sept. 25, 1997. To Whom It May Concern: The Name(s) of the Applicant(s) is/are: HASSAN YEHYA ABDULLA. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to sell alcoholic beverages at: 125

HYDE ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102. For the following type of license: 20-OFF SALE BEER AND WINE. SAN FRANCISCO District Office, 185 BERRY ST. STE 5600, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94107, (415) 557-3660
Oct. 2, 9, 16, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 217808

The following person(s) are doing business as WEBSNORKELERS, 1285 Oak St. #6, San Francisco, CA 94117: William O'Connell, 1285 Oak St. #6, San Francisco, CA 94117. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of October 2, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed William O'Connell. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 2, 1997.

Oct. 9, 16, 23, 30 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 217898

The following person(s) are doing business as SUNSHINE FLOWERS, 1155 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94103: Albert Harold Schreiber, 263 Clinton Park #F, San Francisco, CA 94103. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Albert H. Schreiber. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 2, 1997.

Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 217939

The following person(s) are doing business as KAMAKURA RESTAURANT, 77 Battery St. #100, San Francisco, CA 94104: Jun OK Kang, 79 Grand Ave., Sausalito, CA 94965; Moon Joung Kang, 79 Grand Ave., Sausalito, CA 94965. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by a husband and wife. Signed Jun OK Kang. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 8, 1997.

Oct. 16, 23, 30, Nov. 6, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 217847

The following person(s) are doing business as COMFORT STATION, 275 Gough St., San Francisco, CA 94102: Psychic Eye Book Shops, Inc. (CA), 13435 Ventura Blvd., Sherman Oaks, CA 91423. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed May Karahalios, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 3, 1997.

Oct. 16, 23, 30, Nov. 6, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 217923

The following person(s) are doing business as ARTBYAARON, 12 Juanita Way, San Francisco, CA 94127-1733: Aaron Warren, 12 Juanita Way, San Francisco, CA 94127-1733. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of October 7, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Aaron Warren. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 7, 1997.

Oct. 16, 23, 30, Nov. 6, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 217784

The following person(s) are doing business as DEPARTMENT X, 151 Rankin St., San Francisco, CA 94124: Jonathan Seales, 13413 Skyline Blvd., Woodside, CA 94062; Mitchel Romanowski, 112 Coleridge St., San Francisco, CA 94110; James Hyman, 59 Newburg St., San Francisco, CA 94131. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of October 1, 1997. This business is conducted by a general partnership. Signed Mitchel Romanowski. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 2, 1997.

Oct. 16, 23, 30, Nov. 6, 1997.

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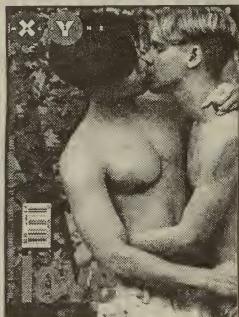
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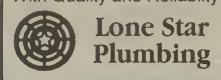
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Bryn Terfel lights up the SFO stage
in Mozart's 'The Marriage of Figaro';
The Moz and Mark Eitzel sing the blues.

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Weed-whacker Peifer
practices her swing on
Rita Mae's 'Rita Will.'

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Ang Lee's 'Ice Storm'
captures the frozen spirit
of America's new rich.

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BAY AREA REPORTER

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Skin deep

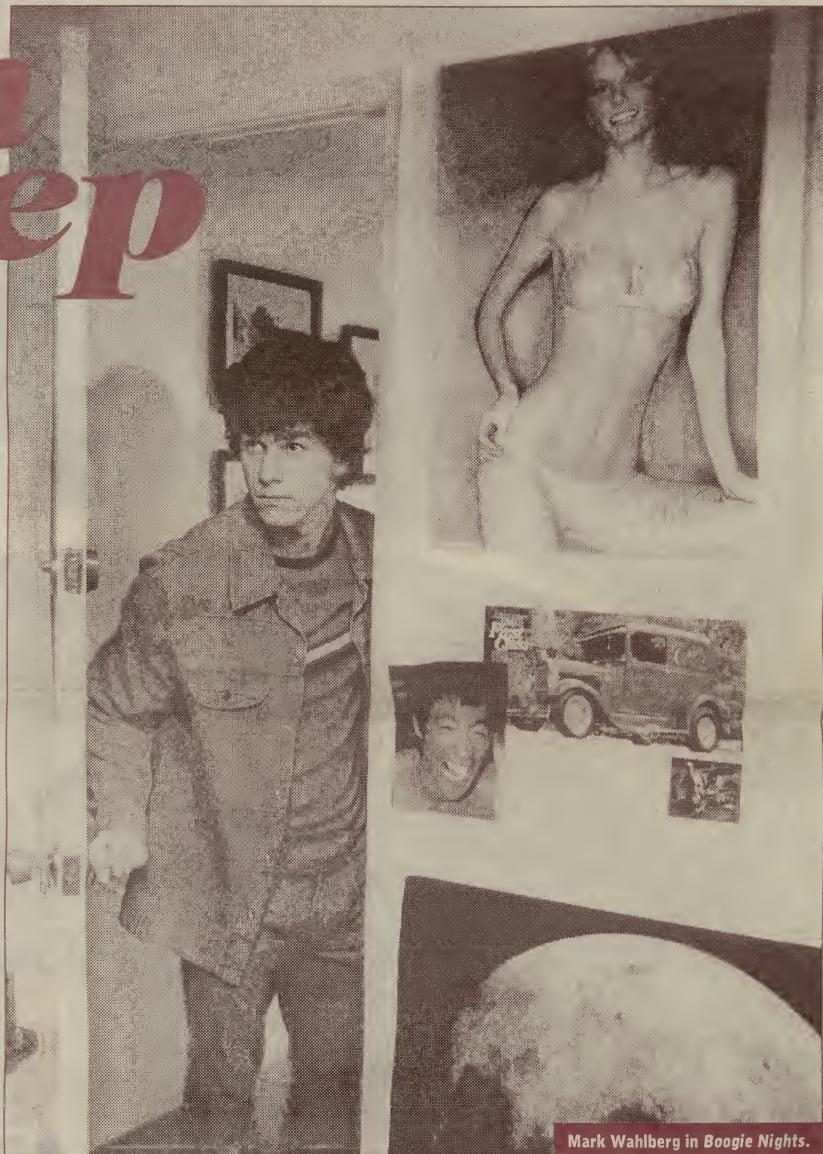
Boogie Nights
doesn't dig deep

by Gary Morris

Boogie Nights expands on the promise "Marky" Wahlberg made "to my dick" in a book published at the height of his Calvin Klein/white rapper boy fame a few years back. That phrase was part of Marky's tease, a crass marketing ploy that tantalized many a queen and teenage girl without delivering the goods. But in spite of never being seen, "his dick" took on an almost religious significance in some circles, finding its apotheosis on the Internet, which is clogged with faux images of the treasure unveiled. The hype of *Boogie Nights*, which stars Wahlberg, is centered on this taboo image — kind of like the kiss in *In & Out* — but it's closer to those fake Internet shots than the real thing. In a soon-to-be-celebrated scene, Wahlberg whips "it" out and talks about it and to it at length. But the movie is ultimately about as authentic as this hunk of pink latex.

Writer-director Paul Thomas Anderson is a 26-year-old émigré from the Sundance workshop, and *Boogie Nights*, his second feature after *Hard 8*, begins promisingly with a swooping crane shot descending on a nightclub in the San Fernando Valley. This is a clear signal that we're moving into Scorsese territory, exploring a seedy underworld of drugs, disco, and the adult film industry in the '70s. Eddie Adams (Wahlberg) is a waiter with bad hair, a winsome smile, and a "special gift," as he describes his 13-inch dick. This John Holmes double — at least in the "Mr. Torpedo area" — is no innocent, however. When art porn impresario Jack Horner (Burt Reynolds) confronts him in a kitchen, our hero assumes the older man is a pervert who will pay to watch him masturbate, as others apparently have. All the characters in *Boogie Nights* are mesmerized by Eddie's "gift," but Horner sees cash in the cock and wants to make him a star. In a

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Mark Wahlberg in *Boogie Nights*.

Photo: S. J. S. / New Line Cinema



Hiep Thi Le and Bugis Street ensemble.

Girls' town

Yonfan's Bugis Street:
doing drag in Singapore

by Gary Morris

This sweet, sad sketch of a film is a rarity indeed: not only is it the first major commercial movie made in Singapore, it's also an exceedingly gay one from a culture not known to tolerate chewing gum, much less the parade of drag queens, whores, and naked hunks who populate the insular world of Bugis Street. Surprisingly, the film was passed by the country's board

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OUT THERE

by Chris Culwell and
Pithy Galore

New York chatterbox Liz Smith reports that **Julia Roberts** is being courted by British movie execs to play **Diana, Princess of Wales** in that rumored-to-be happening biopic. Guess our prediction that **Sharon Stone** would land the part was a bit premature. Well, as long as we're fishing around in the sea of the ridiculous, we should fess up and tell you that our first pick for the part was **Ellen DeGeneres**. You may laugh, but there are similarities between the two. It's true, a surgeon would have to be hired to do something about the gravitationally-challenged corners of the TV star's mouth, but if Hollywood can make **John Travolta** look thin — or at least less fat — it can surely give Ellen a real smile.



Gina Lollobrigida



Sophia Loren

Speaking recently on Italian TV, Lollobrigida said she has long sought a project that the two actresses could work on together, and that *Baby Jane* would be a perfect vehicle. "For myself, I see the **Bette Davis** role," the 70-year-old Lollobrigida said, without a trace of irony. "Sophia is very good at playing the victim; she would be marvelous as **Joan Crawford's** character."

Loren hasn't made an official statement to the press about her rival's idea, but the 63-year-old actress has apparently expressed her interest in working with Lollobrigida to friends and associates.

Can you imagine lines like, "But ya are Blanche, ya are," in Italian?

Fluffing Dave

We were hoping when we picked up **Stephen Singular's** new **David Geffen** bio, *The Rise and Fall of David Geffen*, that we'd see some mention in the book of the infamous Geffen/Keanu Reeves nuptials that everyone made such a fuss about a couple years back. But, alas, Reeves is mentioned only once, and in a parenthetical aside at that. Funny, given the far and wide circulation of that amusing tale of love in the South of France, you'd think the

sexy young actor would at least be acknowledged for helping to make Geffen famous for something other than making millions and cowering in a closet until it was safe to come out.

But then this book isn't really about David Geffen, it's about God, or in this case, a self-described "Sammy Glick" from Brooklyn who single-handedly transformed himself overnight from schoolyard wimp to Hollywood muckety-muck. Although the author attempts to conceal his admiration of Geffen behind a meticulous account of his meteoric ascension to the Entertainment Empyrean, it would take something on the order of a minor miracle to adequately conceal the starfucking spirit of this empty celebrity blow-job: "His face [Geffen's] is the face of a sybarite," writes Singular. "[That] of someone who's discovered the California good life and relishes it so much that he cannot quite suppress his glee. It is the expression of every person who was ever hurt or put down by bigger, richer, or smugger high school classmates — and then went on to achieve things unimaginable by his teenage competitors." Gag.

Fortunately, in the process of turning Geffen into God, Singular does sling dish. For instance, the book details the now-openly queer entertainment mogul's attempts back in the '70s to go straight with the help of actresses **Cher** and **Marlo Thomas**. The Cher anecdotes are priceless, especially one

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Sister act

Time has a funny way of healing all wounds. According to a story in last week's *Variety*, Italian screen star **Gina Lollobrigida** wants to work with **Sophia Loren**, despite their long history of public rivalry. Even more surprising, *Variety* says the project she has in mind for their collaboration is a remake of **Robert Aldrich's** 1962 campsterpiece, *Whatever Happened to Baby Jane?*



Marlo Thomas and David Geffen in the 1970s

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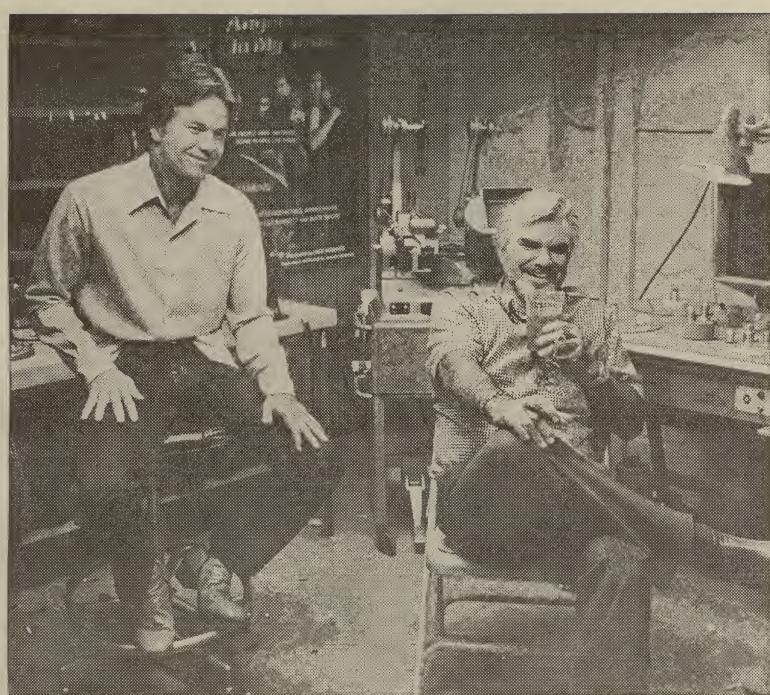
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Mark Wahlberg and Burt Reynolds in *Boogie Nights*.

Boogie Nights

▲ Arts cover

chronological boomerang, this '90s movie set in the '70s begins to assume the melodramatic mantle of the '50s, tracing Eddie's rise and fall as if he were Joan Crawford or Susan Hayward on a binge.

Eddie's biological family is a mess of mythic proportions, especially his mother, whose violent rages none-too-subtly disguise her lust for her son. Horner takes Eddie in with the promise of stardom and an improved version of the family in the loose but loving allegiances common in the porn demimonde. Along with his contract and his new daddy, Eddie also gets a new "mother," Amber Waves (Julianne Moore); a sister, Rollergirl (Heather Graham); and assorted other faux relatives, including a chubby queen named Scotty (Philip Seymour Hoffman), who spends all his time mooning over Eddie. The details of porn production are well-conveyed, with Wahlberg and Moore

showing something approaching chemistry in their halting first sex scenes together.

Boogie Nights vacillates uneasily between satire and seriousness. When Eddie comes up with a more suitable name for himself, "Dirk Diggler," it's visualized in neon lights in the laughably literal manner of an old Hollywood montage. And the film's examples of Horner's artistic ambitions seem foolishly misplaced given the sample footage of Eddie and his pal Reed Rothchild (John C. Reilly), which looks like the most ragged exploitation movies of the period. (To the director's credit, this particular corner of cultural sleaze is well-rendered.) We're supposed to accept Horner as a kind of deluded "beautiful loser," but Anderson isn't capable of nuancing the character into that kind of reality. Any credibility that emerges can be attributed to Burt Reynolds' convincing dissipation.

The serious side of the film kicks in at the end of a string of jokes where Little Bill (*Fargo*'s William H. Macy), a production flak, repeatedly stumbles onto his

wife (played by real-life porn queen Nina Hartley) screwing other guys. The movie replays the joke to numbing effect, and when Little Bill finally responds with violence, there's a visceral impact but little emotion. The director is a little too in love with his conceits to resist repeating them. In another misjudged sequence, poor queen Scotty grabs Eddie and kisses him, then, after apologizing profusely to his stunned pal, retires to his new car for an interminable exercise in self-flagellation: "What a fucking idiot I am" he tearfully repeats ad nauseam. (One might question Eddie's surprise at being come on to by a man; the porn world has always been notoriously polymorphous, and it's hard to imagine a major male porn star then or now taking such umbrage.)

Boogie Nights makes the common distinction between the excesses of the '70s and the payback of the '80s, as Jack Horner's warm and fuzzy mock-family slides into disintegration. A series of overdoses, arrests, and Eddie's fall from grace end the foolish fun on New Year's Eve, 1980, and the movie's inspiration shifts from Scorsese to Tarantino with a series of mechanically effective but unaffectionate episodes that violently dispose of most of the characters and their dreams.

Director Anderson's problem is one that plagues many filmmakers today: technical proficiency undermined by threadbare, cliché characters. As good an actress as Julianne Moore is, it's hard to sympathize with her character when she cries about losing custody of her son, because Anderson hasn't taken the time to let her dig into her character. Likewise, key moments that should resonate emotionally because they're anchored in character, like a superbly shot and edited bloody hold-up in a doughnut shop, look more like cinematic virtuosity than felt life. Anderson is simply more interested in the mechanics of mounting the film, in capturing the sights and sounds of an era, than in making us care about what happens to these people. ▼

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Boogie Nights opens in general release Friday, October 17.

FILM

Cold day in hell

Ang Lee's 'The Ice Storm'

by Robert Julian

In *The Ice Storm*, director Ang Lee uses a cold 1973 Thanksgiving as a metaphor for upper middle-class discontent. The screenplay by James Schamus illuminates the world of New Canaan, Connecticut, a place where quiet desperation simmers just beneath the ice, where cloistered suburban souls collide head-on with the forces of social change.

Ben and Elena Hood (Kevin Kline and Joan Allen) abandon couples' counseling and retreat to their separate psychological corners. Ben continues his affair with neighbor Janey Carver (Sigourney Weaver) while Elena disappears further into her world of wounded pride and unexpressed anger. Their adolescent daughter Wendy (Christina Ricci) regularly escapes her parents' home to engage in a flirtation with Janey's two sons, Mikey and Sandy (Elijah Wood and Adam Hann-Byrd). And the Hoods' elder son Paul (Tobey Maguire) flees to Manhattan to pursue a rich young girl who attends his prep school. This holiday routine is interrupted by a wife-swapping party that coincides with the arrival of an ice storm. Margo Channing would advise, "Fasten your seat belts, it's going to be a bumpy flight."

Ang Lee has already created an impressive film catalog that includes works like the gay-themed *The Wedding Banquet* and *Sense and Sensibility*. With the addition of *The Ice Storm*, Lee places himself at the head of the class of filmmakers whose work elegantly combines social anthropology with drama. In *The Ice Storm*, Lee's efforts are complemented by Mark Friedberg's exquisite production design and Carol Oditz's wonderful costumes. Friedberg and Oditz re-create the 1973 world of pointed collars, belted sweaters, and pastel polyester with none of the boringly predictable ironic commentary that usually accompanies contemporary renderings of the period. This world is real, and its reality is scary.

Sigourney Weaver as Janey Carver in Ang Lee's *The Ice Storm*.

gression. Kevin Kline competently handles the larger role of the patriarch, Ben Hood, with flair, and all the adolescent actors excel in communicating the peculiarly nonspecific longing of puberty.

Highest honors in the acting department go to Joan Allen, who is destined to earn yet another Oscar nomination for her rendering of the repressed Elena Hood. Working with relatively few moments of scripted character reve-

lution, Allen excels at communicating her character's thoughts with a glance or a gesture. Lines that in the hands of a lesser actor would be footnotes, here become essays; Allen defines the art of film acting with this superlative performance.

Cinematographer Frederick Elmes provides a brittle rendering of a 1973 winter in the Connecticut countryside. Those looking for the virginal white blanket of snow, barren birch trees and romantic fireside chats are in for a rude awakening. Elmes captures a Connecticut of slippery surfaces, empty spaces, and heavy branches laden with icicles that clatter in the breeze.

Those who require tidy plots

The film is both provocative and memorable in its ability to portray two generations out of sync with their own country and the events that capture its attention in the humiliating fall of 1973.

Composer Mychael Danna incorporates an inspired use of Native American flutes into his score, adding an eerie, ominous tone to a film that drips with impending disaster from its opening credits.

In adapting Rick Moody's novel for the screen, James Schamus avoids melodrama and moralizing, something that elevates this film above previous dysfunctional family dramas like *Ordinary People* and this year's *A Thousand Acres*. His screenplay is so restrained that it almost becomes transparent.

Least successful in this challenging task is Sigourney Weaver, whose turn as the adulterous neighbor relies too heavily on unmotivated anger and sexual ag-

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Animal crackers

Errol Morris' 'Fast, Cheap & Out of Control'

by Robert Julian

In the past, brilliant documentary filmmaker Errol Morris has cast a jaundiced eye upon American culture in films like *The Thin Blue Line*, *Vernon, Florida*, and *Gates of Heaven*. Morris' latest film, *Fast, Cheap & Out of Control* continues the tradition while simultaneously breaking new ground. This may be his most impressionistic work to date.

Cinematographer Robert Richardson (*JFK*, *Casino*) adds new artistry to the typical Morris approach of presenting talking heads who squawk their stories directly into the camera. Richardson shoots from every angle, employing slow motion, soft focus, and intense close-ups that pro-

ducer/director Morris interrupts with stock footage from old films, videos, and cartoons. Although the ostensible subjects of the film are four very quirky guys, the montage indicates that Morris is aspiring to a more universal thematic statement than his four subjects might individually provide.

The four men at the heart of the film are a topiary gardener, a mole-rat specialist, a robot scientist, and a lion tamer. Each is obsessed with a particular form of animal life he is trying to understand and control. The gardener creates green animals of privet that resemble bears or giraffes; the robot scientist tries to get machines to emulate the behavior of insects; the mole-rat specialist studies hairless mammals with an obsessive desire to come to terms



George Mendonca, Topiary Gardener, in Errol Morris' *Fast, Cheap & Out of Control*.

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with their lifestyles and habits; and the lion tamer exerts control over his cats with equal attention to instinctive animal behavior and self-preservation. For the first half of the film, most viewers will likely be trying to figure out what these men have in common and where this montage of interviews and film clips is headed — some may still be actively engaged in this speculation when the final credits roll.

The circus serves as the leitmotif for *Fast, Cheap & Out of Control*, and the composer Caleb Sampson provides a suitably loony calliope accompaniment for the many circus images that flood the screen. While Morris' subjects ramble on about mole-rats and robots, the director provides us with images of the circus — of human beings in sequined leotards hanging from ropes and swings to delight their audience.

More than ever before, the filmmaker here operates on the level of metaphor, and even the most devout Morris fans will find this work something of a departure, one that challenges as it rewards. But it would be an oversimplification to conclude that Morris is simply trying to communicate that life is fast, cheap, and out of control.

Morris dedicates this film to the memory of his parents, whose deaths have affected the filmmaker in profound ways. In *Fast, Cheap & Out of Control*, this loss has resulted in a more gentle film, one that is conscious of the metaphysical side of life. In *Gates of Heaven*, Morris (both brilliantly and cruelly) exposes his subjects to ridicule. The pathos of pet owners discussing the loss of their beloved pets quickly gives way to parody as Morris' unspoken sarcasm screams silently from the

other side of the camera lens. But in his latest, Morris approaches his four subjects with great objectivity, if not reverence. In their own weird ways, these gentlemen are trying to come to terms with a particular form of life, to understand it and achieve some sort of mastery over it. And by film's end, it is hard to avoid the conclusion that their shared quest is actually for an understanding of self — an understanding each man attempts to intuit from the study of something that is "other." Morris has the grace and the courage to allow these men the dignity of their search without passing judgment; and in doing so, he produces a touching film that is ultimately full of sweetness and light. ▼

Fast, Cheap & Out of Control
opens Friday, October 17 at the Castro Theatre.

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The amazing Dr. Love

by Deborah Peifer

I've had a fantasy for a long time, one I suspect a lot of us share, that someday sexual orientation will be one facet of a complex personality, not its defining characteristic. I may have gotten my wish with *Intimate Portrait: Dr. Susan Love*, which premieres on Lifetime Television Wednesday, October 22.

Dr. Susan Love is, of course, the highly regarded expert on breast cancer who has written extensively on the treatment of the disease. She's the doctor who referred to the mastectomy/chemotherapy/radiation treatment as slash/poison/burn, a vivid description of a protocol that may be as damaging as the disease. In the Lifetime portrait, we get to see Dr. Susan Love as healer, researcher, and permanent thorn in the ass of the patriarchal male medical establishment. We also see a woman who is an out dyke,



Dr. Susan Love

the almost 30 years since Stonewall. I imagine the religious right will be apoplectic about this portrait of a heroic lesbian.

Lifetime does a fine job profiling both the personal and the professional life of this amazing woman. The hour goes quickly, yet provides lots of thoughtful information about cancer and about activism. Don't think the hour is grim, though. Love has a great sense of humor, as do the members of her families; there are plenty of laughs in this moving program. Don't miss the chance to celebrate one of our own. Oh, yes, October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, so if you haven't had a mammogram lately, make your appointment now. ▼

Intimate Portrait: Dr. Susan Love airs Wednesday (7 p.m.), October 22 on Lifetime Television. It will be shown again on Tuesday, October 28 (7 p.m.).

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Maladjusted and lovelorn

Morrissey and Mark Eitzel sing the blues

by Steven Jenkins

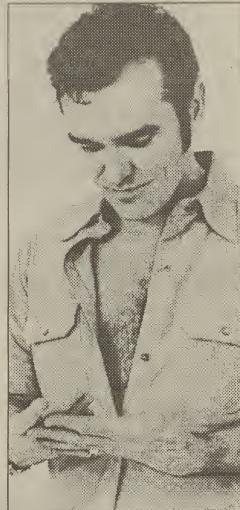
I'll bet Mark Eitzel is a Morrissey fan, or at least used to be years ago when he led the brilliant San Francisco band American Music Club, and when Morrissey was perched atop the pop pantheon as the sexy, celibate, brainy bard of The Smiths, quite likely England's finest foursome

since The Beatles. Times have changed for both artists: Eitzel disbanded the criminally overlooked AMC a few years ago and embarked on a rewarding solo career; Morrissey continues to struggle with mixed results to remain relevant in the decade following The Smiths' break-up. Morrissey and Eitzel — both enormously gifted singer-songwriters who happen to be gay — performed in San Francisco on successive nights last week in concerts that confirmed my suspicions of the man from Manchester's dwindling importance and my longtime admiration for the local troubadour's bruised, beautiful tales of woe.

Morrissey is touring America for the first time in five years in support of his latest album, *Maladjusted*, yet he hardly seemed thrilled to be on stage at the Warfield, where his arrival was greeted with showers of flowers from adoring fans. Pitching them back into the crowd, Morrissey led his guitar-heavy gang of goons through sluggish songs from *Maladjusted*, *Southpaw Grammar*, and *Vauxhall and I*. Like a petulant child throwing a tantrum, Morrissey whipped his microphone around the stage, rarely acknowledged the crowd, and pretty much phoned-in his lackluster performance. Gone is the endearing un-gainliness of his days with The Smiths, when he would slump over amplifiers in a fever of love and lust. Nowadays, Morrissey is content to stumble through the paces of a one-hour "rock show" with nary a trace of his former passion.

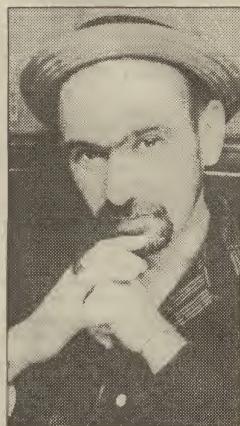
Morrissey's most harmful failing as a solo artist has been his inability to find a songwriting partner who can anchor his romantic musings in memorable pop hooks, as Smiths genius Johnny Marr did again and again on perfect songs like "Reel Around the Fountain" and "Heaven Knows I'm Miserable Now." As a result, he's made do with turgid tunes like "The Teachers are Afraid of the Pupils," "Alma Matters," and "Wide to Receive," all drearily performed. The show's slack pace picked up a bit with the appealing homo-glam of "Billy Budd" and "Roy's Keen," and with his sunny ode to codependency, "The More You Ignore Me the Closer I Get."

Sadly, the show's highlights were surprise versions of two Smiths classics, "Paint a Vulgar Picture" and "Shoplifters of the World Unite." What does it say about Morrissey's current status that he and his perfunctory band generated nostalgic thrills with note-perfect renditions of guitar solos written by Marr in the mid-'80s? "I have something important to say but I've forgotten what it is," Morrissey tellingly revealed in one of his only comments to the crowd. How true. This show was a hollow reminder of the glorious Smiths concerts I saw in Hollywood in 1985, and not only because Morrissey and I are older now and less prone to swooning. Rather, an off-putting bitterness has replaced Morrissey's once-charming foppish misanthropy, and he no longer seems to connect emotionally with the clever words he writes.



Morrissey

Whereas Morrissey's every sneeze used to be noted with fervent interest, he's now considered a sort of crotchety uncle to the Britpop boys in Blur, Pulp, and Oasis, and who wants to spend time with a grouch? I'd rather have stayed home, listening to *Meat is Murder* for the millionth time, darning my socks and staring wistfully out the window than witness my former hero croon himself into an artistic dead-end.



Mark Eitzel

"Love is natural and real, but not for you and I," Morrissey once sang, and Mark Eitzel echoed him in a song last year with the line "Everything is beautiful, but babe not you and me." Eitzel has long shared Morrissey's penchant for lyrical moping and gloom-and-doom dramatics, yet unlike the Mozz he continues to transcend tragedy with humor, pathos, and a short-story writer's eye and ear for precise detail. In a wonderfully open-hearted acoustic show at Cowell Theater, as part of the Solo Mio festival, Eitzel serenaded a rapt audience of devotees with haunting songs old and new, stretching back to American Music Club favorites like "Apology for an Accident" and "What Holds the World Together," and previewing several selections from

page 47 ▶

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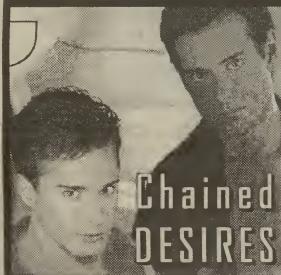
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BOOKS

Rita shouldn't

by Deborah Peifer

Rita Will: Memoir of a Literary Rabbler-Rouser by Rita Mae Brown; Bantam, \$23.95

In her scathing review of Rita Mae Brown's *Murder, She Mewed* (*Lambda Book Report*, December 1996), Julie Willis described "a writer who by the time she realized she wasn't very good couldn't quit because she was too famous." When asked if she was referring to Brown, Willis replied: "No, definitely not. Rita Mae will never realize that."

Rita Mae Brown burst on the lesbian scene with *Rubyfruit Jungle* in 1973, a badly written piece that had as its significant selling point a hero who loved being a dyke. The book was so different from the pulp novels in which lesbians had either to be cured or killed that it became the lesbian novel of choice for many years. Brown was out herself and became an early hero of the lesbian nation.

Time passed, and Brown wrote lots more books with less and less lesbian content. Owing to her initial success, she never had any motivation to work on her writing, to make it better, or even less bad. In her appallingly written memoir, *Rita Will*, Brown proves that she is even less skilled at biography than she is at fiction.

The trouble starts in the introduction, when Brown explains that "libel laws are so strict that there's a great deal you can't say even if you witnessed it." Now, let's think about that. Brown is claiming that libel laws prevent her from telling what she knows, but surely Brown knows that the one great defense against a charge of libel is the truth. So is she saying that she can't lie about all the people she'd like to? Dead people can't be libeled, so perhaps Brown is letting her readers know that she intends only to lie about the not so dearly departed. That might explain a lot of what she says about her adoptive mother. Whatever she's doing, a statement that claims that the author is limited by threats of libel is hardly an auspicious beginning to a memoir.

But there is so much more

wrong with *Rita Will* that I am limited in recounting the horrors, not by fears of libel (opinions are absolutely privileged), but by space considerations. Let me offer some highlights, or rather, lowlights, that put Brown's work in serious contention for worst book of the year.

Clichés might be a good place to start. You would think that someone who has published 20 books, including, heaven forbid, a writer's manual, would have developed the skill to express herself creatively. You would be wrong. Brown is "bound" determined to "keep her nose to the grindstone." She "was not born with a silver spoon in her mouth," and so must fight "tooth and nail." "Marry in haste, repent at leisure," she tells us, twice. "The cart's before the horse" if you don't know that "you've got to crawl before you can walk." She "knocked around from pillar to post" while "burning the candle at both ends," but she did get to meet someone whose "basic impulse is still to overflow with the milk of human kindness."

Perhaps we should be grateful for the clichés, because when Brown tries to create her own metaphors, the results are ghastly. "Maybe that's why our passions drive us," she offers, trying to explain her family, "why our sense of humor is so sharp; we each know we could be erased on the great blackboard of life without leaving but a speck of chalk dust." She mentions a man with good manners and observes: "I suspect he emerged from the womb of a gentleman."

The writing is awful, but the stories Brown tells are worse. She claims to have been present at many very important events, including Stonewall, but she reports them with an absolute absence of affect. Every incident — the Stonewall rebellion, a trip to the grocery, a love affair being abandoned by her birth mother and adopted by a woman who refers to her as the "ill" (short for illegitimate) — is given the same weight. At no time do we understand why Brown feels the need to report these occurrences, although the niggling possibility that she was just filling pages does arise more than once. Her coy hints that the



Peter Cunningham

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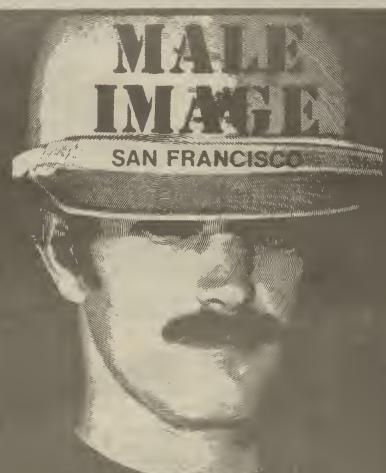


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Terfel triumphs

SFO's 'The Marriage of Figaro'

by Paul Thomason

It's rare in opera today to see a singer who has such authority on stage, such total command of a role both vocally and dramatically, that the performance seems to be utterly spontaneous. One had that experience last week watching Bryn Terfel in the title role of the San Francisco Opera's first presentation of Mozart's *Le Nozze di Figaro*. The Welsh bass-baritone simply was Figaro, and there is no higher praise than that for a singer.

Terfel's Figaro was a real human being, a man with a dark side as well as a light side, a man whose anger and jealousy were as present as his joy and love. In the hands of a lesser artist, these emotions could easily have gotten out of hand, but Terfel — and perhaps stage director Graziella Sciutti as well — molded Figaro so

surely that a role which can sometimes seem like a pen and pencil sketch became a painting by Vermeer.

What a joy to see a *Figaro* directed so deftly. Only an occasional misstep (like Cherubino wrestling the Countess onto a chaise lounge) marred this adult comedy. Sciutti, herself once a renowned Susanna, obviously realizes *Figaro* is about true eroticism rather than the Las Vegas sex we generally get on stage at the War Memorial, and the results were delightful.

Which is not to say the opera was perfect. Far from it. Soprano Sylvia McNair's Susanna was just this side of disaster. She sang all evening with a thin, vibratoless

Count explains that he loves his wife very much, "but three years of marriage makes it seem so respectable." That was Skovhus' Count — young, on the prowl, but truly repentant at the end. His plea for forgiveness, "Contessa, perdonol!" was the most heartfelt and ravishing I've ever heard. What a shame the supertitles caused the audience to break into laughter at such an intimate moment. Perhaps the way to avoid that would be to let the Count sing his first two words, clearly establishing the mood, before the supertitles are flashed on the screen?

Angelika Kirchschlager's company debut as Cherubino was a disappointment, mainly because



Bryn Terfel as Figaro.

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tone, which meant one often could not hear her, and when one could, she was often off pitch. Susanna is the most intelligent person in the opera, the character at the center of the drama who manipulates everyone else in one way or another. Unfortunately, McNair's Susanna was also recessive dramatically, which unbalanced the drama considerably. Throughout the performance, she seemed to be trying to behave as the Countess usually does.

Perhaps that's why debuting soprano Solveig Kringelborn's Countess sometimes seemed more like Susanna than the slightly above-it-all Countess one usually gets. Kringelborn does not have the creamy, pure voice of great Countesses like Te Kanawa or Della Casa, and the top is so problematic we didn't get the high notes in her Act II trio. Still, she made me believe in her earthy view of the Countess, and *Figaro* is, after all, an Italian opera by Mozart, not a Viennese confection by Strauss.

In his U.S. opera debut, baritone Bo Skovhus offered a Count perfectly suited to Kringelborn's Countess. One could easily see these singers as Count Almaviva and Rosina of Rossini's *The Barber of Seville*. In Beaumarchais' play *The Marriage of Figaro*, the

she faded into the woodwork both vocally and dramatically. Perhaps the mezzo-soprano was ill or just having an off night. One wonders why bass Sorin Colibăni, who was making his U.S. opera debut as Dr. Bartolo, was imported for the role, since his performance offered so little.

Also offering little assistance was company music director Donald Runnicles in the pit. All evening, the 40-something piece orchestra chugged away at a middling dynamic level and with seemingly middle-level involvement. Mozart's orchestral textures and colors were nowhere to be heard. The sparkle and wit were also missing. It wasn't terrible, it just wasn't up to the score — or to some of the performances on stage.

Still, with all of its shortcomings, including a dark production by Zack Brown, this was a performance occasionally touched by greatness. ▼

Performances continue at the War Memorial Opera House through November 1. Giovanni Furlanetto replaces Bryn Terfel beginning October 22. For tickets (\$22 to \$145) and further information, call (415) 864-3330.

MUSIC

As mellifluous as ever

by Daniel Mangin

Patti Page - A Golden Celebration (Mercury Records)

When Patti Page celebrated her 50-year show-business career with a performance at Carnegie Hall a few months back, equal-size contingents of blue-haired ladies and their husbands and nattily dressed gay-male longtime companions composed the bulk of the crowd.

It made for disjointed eavesdropping at the swank Carnegie bar during intermission — “They sure don’t make music like this anymore”; “Do you think that hunk of a horn player is one of us?” — but all the assembled agreed on one point: Page’s voice sounded as mellifluous as ever.

Already a hitmaker in the late 1940s, the singer vaulted into stardom in the early 1950s when “Tennessee Waltz” peaked at

number one on the pop charts and number two on the country charts. Page’s dual appeal undoubtedly smoothed her transition to country music in the early 1960s, after her brand of pop had run its course.

In between she churned out a string of hits, including “I Went to Your Wedding,” the novelty number “How Much Is That Doggie in the Window?” and “Old Cape Cod.” All are part of a four-CD, 80-song compilation released earlier this year by Mercury Records.

Within a fairly rigid pop formula — the arrangements of some of her biggest sellers of the 1950s are borderline redundant — Page folds in blues, jazz, country, and R&B inflections. She manages all four in “Oklahoma Blues,” one of her earliest recordings.

The first two CDs in the Mercury set contain Page’s pop hits in chronological order, and the third has the country ones she made for Mercury assembled the same way.

Her mid-1960s to early 1970s country songs and her hit theme to the film *Hush, Hush, Sweet Charlotte*, not recorded for the label, are absent from this collection.

The fourth CD, titled “The Singer,” includes recordings, some of them B sides or album-only cuts and a few not previously issued, of songs by Duke Ellington, Johnny Mercer, and other major talents. Page’s renditions of Memphis Slim’s “Everyday I Have the Blues” and Noel Coward’s “Mad About the Boy” on this last CD are particularly winning, and she puts a ‘50s-prime but still coolly sultry spin on Cole Porter’s “Love for Sale” that somehow overrides a daffily syncopated arrangement. With the exception of her biggest hits, the songs from the fourth CD, or ones like them, evoked the strongest reactions from the Carnegie Hall crowd, perhaps because they illustrate just how versatile a singer she is. ▶



Patti Page

Mark Eitzel

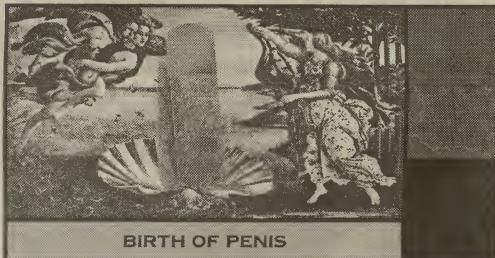
◀ page 44

his upcoming third solo album, *Caught in a Trap and I Can't Back Out 'Cause I Love You Too Much Baby*.

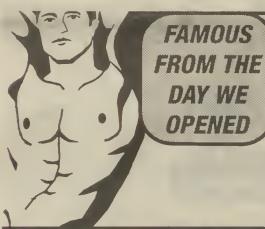
Wearing a sharp suit that he joked made him look like a member of the New Power Generation, Eitzel’s plaintive voice, delicate guitar strumming, and devastating narratives were spell-

binding. Repeating the phrases “I’ll never leave you” on “The Thorn in My Side is Gone” and “I’m always alone” on the exquisite “Sacred Heart,” Eitzel pulled apart clichés to find new emotional shadings. He threaded together several songs about “my scandalous past in San Francisco,” such as “Mission Rock Resort” and the lovely “Steve I Always Knew,” with its homage to “the boys on Polk Street.” By the time he knocked over his bottle of

beer, took off his shoes and socks and stood barefoot to sing “I’ve Been a Mess,” Eitzel had given everything of himself. This was the best I’ve ever seen Eitzel, and I don’t think there’s another singer-songwriter in America right now who can touch him. Who else could write a line as spooky and gorgeous as “The world is held together by the wind that blows through Gena Rowlands’ hair”? I’ll bet Morrissey wishes he could. ▶



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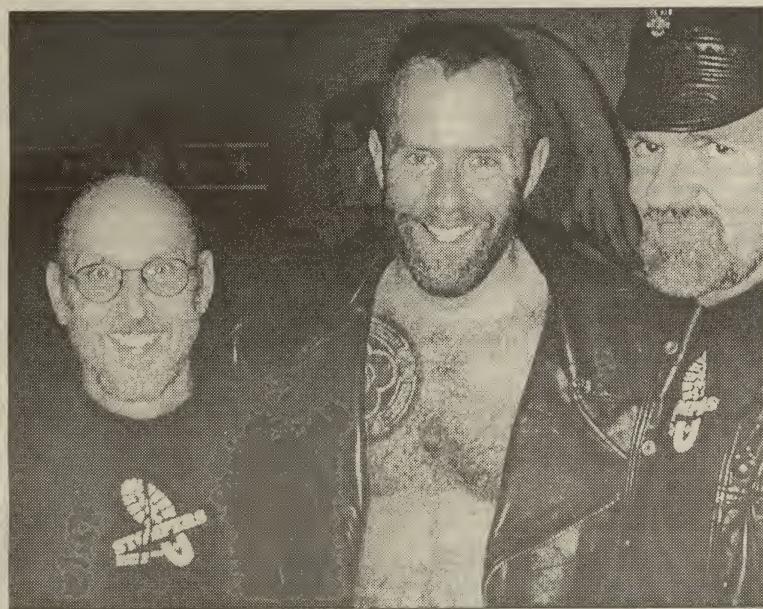
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IML Joe Gallagher (center) helped Stompers owners Frank (left) and Mike celebrate their first anniversary Oct. 2. Photo by Mark Morris

70 shopping days until Christmas

by Mister Marcus

Here it is mid-October already. The days are getting shorter and the nights longer. All the major gay holidays have come and gone except for Halloween, when you know there will be a lot of fun things coming your way. Last week, the SF-Eagle set its annual Leather & Feathers night for Thursday, Oct. 30, beginning at 2200.

The usual rules will prevail with cash prizes in three categories: Best Group, Most Humorous and the grand prize for the "In Theme" category in which the winner's costume must consist of leather and feathers. The judges

have not yet been selected, but rest assured they will be by the time of the event.

It isn't even Thanksgiving yet, but stores and businesses are already ripe with Christmas displays. However, isn't that always the way? I'm sure the merchants of the Castro and Upper Market will have a lot of things you and your friends "just can't live without."

As the season progresses, so do the ambitions of leather men and women around the country. Just last weekend, the Utica Tri's MC held its eighth annual Mr. Upstate New York Leather contest weekend,

with most of the action at That Place bar. This event is a feeder for contestants in the Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather competition in Washington, D.C., on Martin Luther King weekend.

Needless to say, most of the usual suspects from the Eastern seaboard were there, and I don't care what they say about snail mail — e-mail just doesn't happen unless someone executes the messages!

At my deadline (late Sunday night), I had no details on the Mr. Upstate New York Leather competition!

Here on the home front, most of the excitement is centered on the upcoming Ms. Golden Gate Leather contest scheduled for Saturday night, Oct. 25. Beth Downey has done such a good job; she's inspired other leather women to get out there, become visible, and do things in the community. If you're interested in competing, application forms are available at the SF-Eagle, Daddy's Bar, both Mr. S locations and at Stormy Leather. The three-day extravaganza promises to be a lively time this year.

As for Mr. San Francisco Leather Tom Powers, he has vanished into thin air without a word of explanation or apology. No one seems to know what happened to our esteemed title holder, so Gary Virginia has been subbing for him whenever appropriate — like when he introduced all the visiting leather title holders onstage at the recent Folsom Street Fair. Hopefully, next year's winner will carry on the rich tradition of our previous leather title holders! Tom Powers is a real disappointment to many of us. But shit happens — you just don't expect it to happen with someone who so blatantly declares his allegiance to the codes of the leather community. Oh well.

Dot, dot, dot...dish

Well, you'd think that with the cool months approaching, so next page ►

Mr. Leather Holland '97 Darryl Lafayette (left) with Mr. Club Trash '97 Ernst Stoltz, who won the audience award for collecting the most money. Photo by Mark Morris

TEQUILA & LIME

Bitter barbs

by Sweet Lips

Imagine, *mes amis*, Sweet Lips' shock and indignation when she found out that her home away from home, her haven from this storm we call life, had been slagged by a national publication. Yes, that's right, folks, that Polkstrasse bastion of culture and couture (not to mention coiffure), the Polk Rendezvous, has been defamed! In the recently published *Fodor's Gay Guide to San Francisco and the Bay Area* by one Andrew Collins, the PR is referred to on page 61 as "a creepy cocktail lounge that's a good place to rendezvous with your bookie or pimp." *Quelle horreur!*

Needless to say, I needed several shots of Cuervo Gold to recover from this unexpected blow. Of course, I suppose I shouldn't feel personally slighted, as other Polk Street institutions also come in for a drubbing. Kimo's, for instance, is described as "a show lounge with tired drag acts," and the P.S. is summed up thusly: "...a dreary piano lounge that's all mirrors and neon, and whose patrons all seem to be named 'John.'" The crowd at the QT is depicted as "diverse in age; bad hair, hairpieces; tourists seeking respite from their dreary hotel rooms at the Leland Hotel; sloppy drunks; many hustlers and old men." Now that's what I call home!

Reflections also comes in for its share of criticism: "The dreary manor industrial carpeting adds a certain flavor — or odor — to the

place." (Note to Mr. Collins: Roget's International Thesaurus lists a half-dozen synonyms for "dreary" — gloomy, gray, ominous, tedious, uninteresting and unpleasant. Use them or try coming up with one of your own!) And surely *turistas* will be flocking to the Polk Gulch after this gem: "Whew! This place is scary. Rumor has it that not one but two men featured on *America's Most Wanted* have hung out at the ole Gulch." Yes, but it was *after* they paid their debt to society.

Those of you who beg to differ with Mr. Collins, who describes himself as "a gay male in my late twenties" who currently divides his time "between a small house in New Hampshire's Monadnock mountains and an apartment in New York City's East Village," could drop an e-mail bomb on him at <http://www.fodors.com> or write him c/o Fodor's at 201 E. 50th St., New York, NY 10022. I'm sure he'd be thrilled to hear from you!

On Sunday, Oct. 19, come join the fun at the PR's 49ers vs. Falcons football fete at 10 a.m., with a beer bust until 6 p.m. (\$1 draft Bud, \$2 draft Widmer).

On Sunday, Oct. 26, it's the PR's fourth annual Chili Cookoff Contest! Bring your hot stuff in by noon to have it judged by your fellow 49er fans. The testing is always a hoot! Cash prizes for the three best chilies, plus watch the

Niners whip the Saints.

Little Joe is still on the plank at the Wooden Horse and still struttin' his considerable attributes to the delight of all!

Happy birthday wishes go out to Mikey at Reflections. He's celebrating his 30th (!) on Thursday, Oct. 23, from 5 p.m. until he drops. The soirée, which promises to be a real wingding, will be catered by the lovely and ubiquitous Dennis "Spumoni and Spam" Tyler.

That homo haven for the heavy and the hairy, the Lone Star Saloon (on Harrison between 9th and 10th), is celebrating its anniversary this weekend with various scintillating events. Tonight (Thursday, Oct. 16) will see the introduction of the new T-shirt and cup (limited edition). The store will be open from 7 p.m. to midnight. Friday, Oct. 17, is pin night, with art by Toby on the walls. On Sunday, Oct. 19, the joint should be jammed with ur-sine aficionados at Kristy Cruise's beer bust, 4-8 p.m.

On Monday, Oct. 27, 9-10:30 a.m., sashay on down to the PR (call in sick!) to bid a fond farewell to Dick Deemer, Bart Dreyer and yours truly. We will be leaving for Puerto Vallarta for a much-needed vacation and to see what that nasty Hurricane Pauline has wrought down there. Hoist a libation and see us on our merry way! ▼

Cocktail Hour**Mister Marcus**

◀ previous page

called lovers would stay together during the winter if only to stay warm! However, all is not well in the nuptial nook. Big Jim McGlade, owner of the world-famous Leather Rack in Washington, D.C., blew into town (alone!) on Friday to "visit" this little "burrito on the hoof" he met at MIL this past May. He was in a good mood and didn't seem a bit upset when queried about the rumor

that his other half, Vicki Nowicki, will be moving to Kansas City any day now! Also, is it really true that all is not well in the bedroom community of Pacifica?

It was a packed house at the Eagle beer bust this past Sunday when City Swing took over the patio. Maybe it's just as well that they failed to publicize their appearance; it was very crowded. Ms. Gail Wilson seems to be "in tune" with the leather community. Attired in scanty lace à la Victoria's Secret, La Wilson brought the house down with an X-rated

version of "I've Got the World on a String," which she refashioned as "I've Got My Ass in a Sling." You know it was a big crowd-pleaser!

And rave reviews about the Golden Gate Guards MC weekend run to beautiful Camp Mendocino have been pouring in. I understand the Pacific Rangers took almost all the prizes offered with their guest night show and camp site, plus winning in other categories not eligible for prizes as well. People are wondering when that group will have a weekend run! ▼

EVENTURES IN LEATHER**Weekend Oct. 16-20**

Big Bear Bust in Orlando, Fla., by Bears of Central Florida with most of the action at the Full Moon Saloon (\$85 weekend fee). For more info, call 407/896-0239 or email to: bocf@aol.com. Lots of San Franciscans will be there!

Thursday, Oct. 16

Constantines MC beer bust at Daddy's, 2100-2400, \$7 and a 50/50 raffle to benefit Godfather Service Fund and Rita Rockett brunches.

Friday, Oct. 17

Exiles/SF host "Women in Uniform" party at the Women's Bldg., \$3 members/\$5 non-members. Doors open 1930-2000 only. Free refreshments for women in uniform. Call 487-5170 for more info.

Free and anonymous HIV testing upstairs at 933 Harrison St., 2200 to half-past midnight. Check yourself out!

Lou Duff's "Guide to Cruising & Trickering With Women." Call 550-0122 for more info.

Saturday, Oct. 18

Titles bestowed in Sacramento and at the Russian River tonight: Ms. Sacramento Valley Contest at Joseph's in the capital and at Mr. River Business in Guerneville.

Forum of SF progressive dinner for \$10 begins with a cocktail at the Hole in the Wall, soup at the Powerhouse, main entree at the SF-Eagle, and dessert and an after-dinner drink at the Lone Star. All local bike clubs participating — how about you?

Bears of SF beer bust at Lone Star Saloon, 1500-1900, for only \$6 to benefit LYRIC. Also, the High Brow Society drag show (not a leather event) at Eureka Valley Recreation Center.

In San Diego? Help the San Diego Eagle celebrate its third anniversary tonight. Best wishes for success in the future!

Sunday, Oct. 19

The Phoenix Uniform Club celebrates its 20th birthday (not anniversary) at the Eagle with an \$8 beer bust and food by the Powerhouse. Raffle tickets for a free trip to Amsterdam. Half the proceeds of the raffle for the Godfather Service Fund will be matched by an anonymous donor.

In San Diego, Second Annual Inercity Motorcycle Grand Prix to benefit HARP Special Delivery. Call 619/584-4141 for details.

Wednesday, Oct. 22

Leather Buddies (already?) party for October. You know the rules. Dress code enforced and that does not include cologne. Wear boots! Call 863-HEAD.

Weekend, Oct. 24-Nov. 2

In Amsterdam, Leather Pride Week with Mr. Drummer Europe contest and scads of events. Some of our community will be there to prey...er, uh...play!

In Vancouver, B.C., Vancouver Activists in S&M (VASM) celebrate their 15th anniversary all weekend (Oct. 24-26). For more info, call Jim at 604/687-1693.

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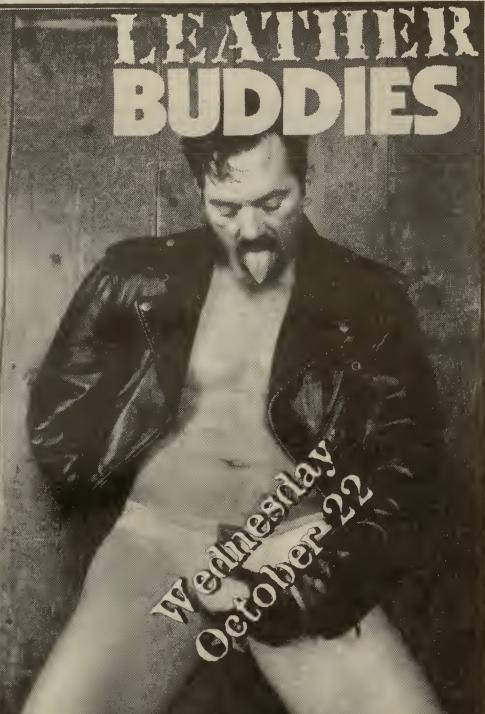
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PENIS WORSHIP IN CIRCLE J PEWS

Our big screen reviews all of the new gay action videos — Falcon, Catalina, Jocks, All Worlds, HIS and others. But on the two side screens, you simultaneously see two 3-hour programs devoted to fetishes, penis display, jack off and self-suck tapes shown in no other gay cinema anywhere, including Hal Call's private collection of big dicks filmed at Adonis Video during the past 25 years!

Adm. \$8 Programs change
Sun and Thu
Open 10am-Midnight

CircleJ Cinema 369 Ellis SF 415-474-6995 Metro: Powell

LEATHER BUDDIES

dress code enforced, call 863-HEAD

OUT & ABOUT

Calendare

by Roberto Friedman



The Art Guys: Wranglin' Jack (top) and Rasslin' Mike (bottom).

Field & stream

After artist Roy Lichtenstein's recent death, we had to endure the spectacle of a clueless reporter for PBS's *Newshour* questioning whether the pop artist's appropriation of comic book imagery was indeed Art. That this question has been settled for almost 50 years now didn't deter the intrepid philistine.

It was left to the art critic for the *Washington Post* to make the case for Lichtenstein's claim to fame. True, the art world is a lot more comfortable with suffering as a subject for art; humor is a radical agenda for fine art, now no less than when Mickey and Donald made their first appearance on Leo Castelli's gallery walls. But when humor works as art, the results can be powerful.

Witness The Art Guys' exhibition at Braunstein/Quay Gallery, "The Great Hunting and Fishing Expo." The Guys are Jack Massing and Michael Galbreath from Houston, who collaborate on a strain of conceptual art which finds inventive new uses for non-fine arts materials. Their new show presents flora and fauna, taxidermically presented, to devastating effect. A raccoon-like creature, covered with tiny mirrored squares, turns on a revolving platform under a spotlight, casting rays like a disco ball. Embedded in a trophy deer head is a computer chip from a car alarm which insists, "I've been tampered with!" A boar is drilled through and fitted with metal piping.

The animal kingdom gets curioser and curioser the more you take in. The Art Guys' twisted vision. It's a Wonderland in which traditionally macho pursuits like huntin' and fishin' are tweaked to existential ends. You may find yourself feeling, as does that very indignant deer, "I've been tampered with!" ▼

"The Great Hunting and Fishing Expo" remains on view through November 1 at Braunstein/Quay Gallery, 250 Sutter. Info: call 392-5532, or e-mail bqq@sirius.com.



Cabaret Castro

Musicians Jasmine Orrilla, John Burke, Ted Tallase; comedian Mindy Dawn Friedman, \$5-10, 8pm. MCC, 150 Eureka. 552-6031.

Caribou Tribute

Fringe Fest hit, tribute to Ray "Cappy" Morris featuring the Whistleaires. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm thru 10/25. \$12. Exit Theatre, 156 Eddy. 673-3847.

Company

Newly revised musical by Stephen Sondheim. Tues.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2&7pm thru 10/19. \$10-36. Marin Theatre Co., 397 Miller, Mill Valley. 388-5208.

Digitally Yours

Return engagement of comic queeries into the future, written and performed by Margery Kretzman, Karen Hirst. Fri. & Sat. at 8:30pm, Sun. at 7:30pm thru 10/19. \$12. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

En Drag

Seven of SF's finest female impersonators, hosted by Alex Michaels. \$7. 9/10, 8:30pm. Kim's, 1351 Polk. 885-4535.

Just Wild About Harry

Grand Central Theatre presents Henry Miller's only play, with Ian Hirsch in title role. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm thru 10/25. Exit Stage Left, 156 Eddy. 835-4728.

The Last Sunrise

Star Maris in multimedia performance: male-to-female gender transformation. Wed.-Sun. at 8pm thru 10/19. \$10. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Lesbian & Gay Dance Festival

Second Annual Les & Gay Dance Fest, a 3-week event (call for schedule). Fri. & Sat. at 7:30pm: Arturo Fernandez, Lynne Jassen, Henry Kersh, more. \$15. Brady Street Dance Centre, 60 Brady. 522-8793.

Milk of Amnesia

Cuban-born NYC perfor-



Ken Taylor

Scared Stiffolio

Evening of scary comedy sketches. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm thru 10/18. \$15. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

Neurotica

Corey Schaffer performs musical journey toward artistic and sexual ambitions. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm thru 11/1. \$16-20. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

Same Sex Ballroom Dance

7:30 Waltz lesson; 8pm hustle lesson; 8:30pm dance for lesbians, gay men. \$8, 10 w/lesson. Metronome, 300 DeHaro. 252-9000.

Carmelita Tropicana stars in Milk of Amnesia at Theatre Rhinoceros. See Friday.



Something For the Boys

42nd Street Moon's concert version of Cole Porter's 1943 musical. Thurs.-Sun. thru 10/19, call for times. Tonight at 8pm. \$18.50. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

Sat 18

All Out Cast

Improv comedy with a queer twist, no cover. 8pm. Bean's, 209 Broadway, Redwood City. (650) 369-3335.

Body Positive Social

Party for HIV+ men. "Lots of cute guys." Free. 7-10pm. Call for location. 241-1579.

Does Love See Color?

SF premiere of Terry Berman's video about interracial lesbian relationships. \$12. 8pm. Victoria Theatre, 2961 16th St. (510) 655-1548.

Gay, But Not Happy?

Coping with Depression workshop led by Paul Zak, part of Harvey Milk Institute. \$25. 10am-1pm. 761 Fillmore. 552-7200.

Gus Van Sant

Independent filmmaker reads from his novel *Pink*, free. 7:30pm. Black Oak Books, 1491 Shattuck, Berkeley. (510) 486-0698.

Hollywood Cabaret

Female impersonators of Tinseltown celebs, hosted by Miss Bette Davis. \$5. Doors 9pm, show 10pm. Kim's,

1351 Polk. 885-4535.

In the Folk Tradition:

"Songs from Around the World" concert by vocal ensemble Chanticleer. \$19-29. 8pm. Calvary Presbyterian, 2515 Fillmore. 392-4400.

Lavender Seniors

Group for E. Bay gays & lesbians over 55 holds potluck. Noon. San Leandro Comm. Church, 1395 Bancroft, San Leandro. (510) 247-2406.

Museum

Vector Theatre Co. presents Tina Howe's comic parody of postmodern art scene. Thurs.-Sun. thru 11/15, call for times. Tonight at 6&9pm. \$20. 450 Geary Studio Theater. 421-2VTC.

Open Studios

Over 130 artists' studios open in the Castro, Mission, Noe Valley, Bernal Heights, Free, Sat. & Sun., 11am-6pm. Directory exhibit at Somar Gallery, 934 Brannan. 675-9777.

The Palm Series

Open studio and reception, paintings by Robert Dunahay. Sat. & Sun., 11am-6pm. 3825 21st St. 550-8321.

Solo Pieces of the Quilt

Sean San José performs scenes by Migidalia Cruz, Danny Hoch, and others, part of Solo Mio Fest. Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 7pm. \$16.50, benefits Alma Delfina Group. Bayfront Theatre, Fort Mason. 392-4400.

The Unreality of Being

Henry Darger's outsider art, thru 11/30. \$5. Center for the Arts, 701 Mission. 978-ARTS.

What Makes It Queer?

Post-genre musical *Down River*, and two-part harmony. The Set. \$7-10. 8:30pm. Jon Sima Center, 1519 Mission. 554-0402.

Painted Tales

Works from artist Richard Taylor's sixty years of painting, thru 12/31. Veterans Bldg., 4th fl., 401 Van Ness. 554-6080.

PoMoSexuals

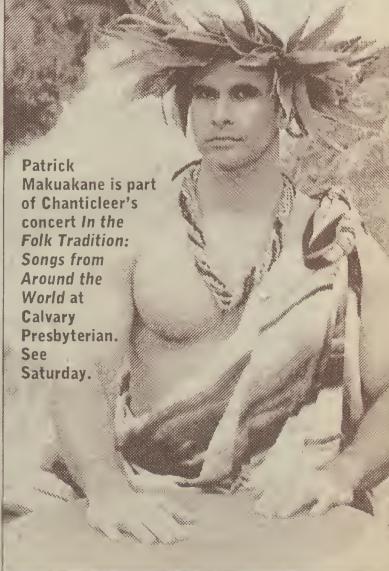
Editors Carol Queen and Lawrence Schimel, contributors read from new anthology, free. 8pm. Good Vibrations, 1210 Valencia. 974-8980.

Q-Spirit

Lecture series on homosexuality in spiritual traditions (Tonight: Hinduism/Sufism), Mondays thru 11/17. \$5/lecture or \$25/series. 7:30pm. St. Francis Lutheran, 152 Church. 281-9377.

New Hope for the Future

Bay Area Health Support & Education Services presents musical fundraiser, benefits



Viscous Expectations

Color photographs and duratrans by Cara Judea Aliadoff, Ste...

Positive Speakers Program. \$15, 4pm. St. John's, 2727 College, Berkeley. (510) 795-0684.

Robb Williams

Cabaret singer, accompanied by Tom Shaw, no cover. 7pm. Harvey's, Castro & 18th St.

A Tale of Love

Film by Trinh T. Minh-ha based on Vietnamese nat'l poem of love. 2pm. \$7 museum admission. Trustees' Auditorium, Asian Art Museum, Golden Gate Park. 379-8801.

Mon 28

Brown Boyz

Movie night for gay Latino youth, 25 & under. 6:30pm. Proyecto ContraSIDA Por Vida, 2973 16th St.

Fur

Campo Santo presents Migidalia Cruz's exploration of animal desire. Fri-Mon, 8pm thru 6pm. 16th St. 861-7933.

Liesl Schnieder

Photography exhibit, thru Oct. Mad Magda's Russian Tea Room, 579 Hayes. 864-7654.

Masami Teraoka

Paintings that combine pop art and Japanese woodblock prints, exhibition preview tonight benefits Les/Gay Community Center. \$45, includes Comm. Ctr. membership.

6pm. Asian Art Museum, Golden Gate Park. 864-8523.

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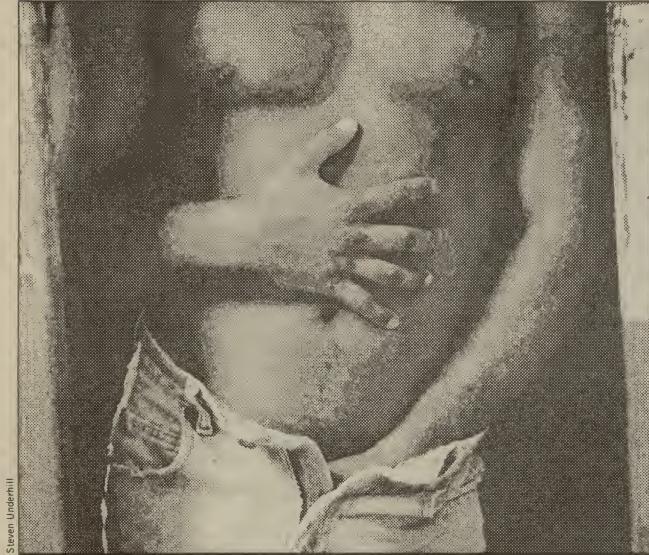
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PARTING GLANCES

John from N.

Met at windmills Tues. Stripped under full moon. Rimed you with my tongue from heaven. Let's do it again, Paul. Call me. ☎ 8201.

Kabuki Hot Springs 9/8

You said you had a thing for red heads. I was too shy to talk then but wish I had. Let's connect now. ☎ 8202.

Man from Mars—Hole in the Wall 9/12 Reminded us we met last Dec., but had difficulties connecting. This earthling still enraptured by your alien charm and thoughts of being abducted and taken to your world. Any possibility? ☎ 8203.

9/17 Castro System 8:15 PM

You: beige suit, tie, black shoes. Me: green & blue long sleeve polo, glasses & cap sitting outside. As you went in our eyes met. You left & looked back 3 or 4 times to find me smiling. Call me. ☎ 8204.

Converse Street Sept. 10, Wed. I liked what you gave me. More please! Call and leave your name and number, OK? ☎ 8205.

Joel, JR's 9/12

We talked I'm the older guy in glasses. Call me, let's talk again. Too shy to tell you my type. ☎ 8206.

Bell Market No Valley

Sunday 9/21:2:15 PM. You were leaving with friend? (7). We looked back at each other a couple of times. Would like to meet you. If you're interested. ☎ 8207.

On the J Train

During the BART strike. Does nutrition & poly sci mix? Food for thought? Perhaps we can discuss it over coffee. ☎ 8208.

Peter Sat. 8/30 Castro Theater

Popcorn line at "Boyfriends?" You were worth six fifty. Film was not. Care to tumble? Eddie. ☎ 8270.

Asian Man at Van Ness Bus Stop 9/25 around 8:30 PM. You were from Denver, I was on my way to gym. We rode bus together, talked about housing costs. Wish we could talk more. Coffee? ☎ 8301.

Folsom SFGMC Booth

Handsome man. Blue eyes, baseball cap, no shirt, shorts. You took a picture with me in black rubber suit. You had small Kodak camera in pocket. Great smile want 2 C more of U. ☎ 8302.

Renegades SJ 9/21 Folsom St.

Followed you home—took off at 7-11. Me: red Mustang. You: blue. Ran into you again at Folsom St. fair. Got intimidated the first time. Feel real bad. ☎ 8307.

Bus Stop 19th & Castro

It was twilight—you got on bus. We waved & shrugged. Let's meet. ☎ 8303.

Asian @ Van Ness/Market 9/24

Me: redhead with a friend getting on the #71 bus. We waved to each other. Call and let's do more! Thought you were real cute. ☎ 8304.

Nice Legs on Market Street?

Thurs., Sept. 18, 7:30 PM. Your blonde from San Jose. Me: Clint from Atlanta, you liked my legs. I was mesmerized, didn't give you my number. Thought about you since. ☎ 8308.

BART 8/25 8 AM

You: cute, wearing black, got on Daly city train. Me: jeans, glasses, pink hair, exchanged smiles on train. You got off at Civic center. Would love to meet you! ☎ 8309.

Muscle System 9/30 5:30 PMish

You: blond w/goatee. Going to Sea Ranch for weekend. Me: brown hair, goatee, glasses. Care for a get together (AKA date)? ☎ 8401.

Civic Center Farmer's Mkt 9/28

You tall with Cal cap, blue shirt, brown shorts, standing by newsstand. Me: Filipino with produce and Mon waiting for a cab. Mom's gone home—we can talk! Please call. ☎ 8402.

Matthew & Mike of Placererville

We met in Castro during Folsom weekend. Would like to reconnect to exchange addresses & phone #'s. I have a great photo of you guys! Don—Los Angeles ☎ 8403.

At Folsom GWM & GBM 4 Pic

You: well-beautiful eyes, bald cap, leather arm band on left arm, leather fanny pack, KINK sticker by naval. We posed for pictures. My camera then yours (Kodak disposable) I was in black suit. Wanna compare pics over coffee? ☎ 8404.

Walgreens/California 9/30 9 AM

You: tall, tan, well-exercised, buzz-cut, glasses, white tee, shorts. "Rugged" boots, maybe 50, smiled entering, got RX, later walked up Spruce. Me: shorter contemporary, buzz-cut, shorts. Let's talk. ☎ 8405.

Squat & Gobbler 10/10: 30 PM

We smiled and said hello as you were leaving and I was entering. You're very attractive. I'd like to meet you, if you're interested. Mark. ☎ 8406.

Sat 10/4 BART Bkly to SF 5PM

You: sexy GL(?)M, gray shirt & jeans, silver hoop ear ring. Me: GWM, blue zip front shirt, green shoes. We cruised thru silver sunglasses. You got off at Powell. Want to play some time? Please call! ☎ 8407.

Campus Theater Late Sat 9/27

You: Asian. Me: older GWM. Let's meet for coffee and see if there are emotional sparks that match the physical sparks we enjoyed. ☎ 8410.

Irish David

We met at the Tangerine Tasting on Friday, 103. I lost your number. Please call me. Aaron. ☎ 8408.

Black Hand Castro Oct. 1

Me: tall blond in front of 250 Castro. Oct. 1, 4:15 PM. You drove by and backed up to take a closer look. I foolishly walked inside, 2nd chance? ☎ 8409.

Steambath 9/28 Sunday

Met a older gentleman about 5'5", glasses, white short hair & short beard in room 228. I said come back in 15 mins, you wanted to fuck me! But we missed each other. I would love to talk with you soon. Please leave your phone # with area code. Mike. ☎ 8306.

John from Pleasant Hill—We Met

Al Fetish & Fantasy 9/26. You said I was more handsome than my photo. You were alone; I was not. Give you my card—except a call. Ball's in your court, boy. ☎ 8411.

Integrity Honesty Loyalty

GWM, 6'1", blond, blue. Smokey (both), drink. Stable, easy-going, professional. Read, cook, play bridge, party, travel, swim, beach, dachshund lover/owner, opera. Lusty, versatile, hung. Deserve self/interests. ☎ 8229.

Energetic Creative Romantic

"Smart" slender. Handsome, good-looking, SGWM, brown/blue, 5'11 1/2" tall, 180 lbs, sincere, easy-going, unaffected. Seeking: 20-36yo artistic, SGWM, creative, good-looking, confident, communicative, kind; for dating-LTR? ☎ 8210.

Attractive Latino 26

I'm 5'7", 170, muscular, stocky build, student. Prefer to meet Latinos or whites under 35, for friendship possibly more. NS and broad minded, humorous only. ☎ 8211.

Attractive Amerasian

Seek: 30-45 for dating, possibly LTR. me: 5'5", 155#, hairy, top. You: nice, honest, stable, NS, ND, 25-35, slim (height/weight proportionate), smooth, bottom. How about us trying: dating, fun, sex and LTR? ☎ 8309.

Hopeful Romantic

I'm 5'11", 185#, dark hair (not much left), dark eyes, furry, in-shape, romantic, masculine, honest, intelligent, bike rides, walks on the beach, hiking, passionate kissing, relationship oriented, HIV+, healthy. ☎ 8213.

Slim Gdlnk Hip Retired Guy

Mustache" crewcut, 5'9", 150#, in good shape, versatile, HIV+, seeks similar slim, 50+, facial hair guy. Short, small dick OK. Smoke OK. Safe only! ☎ 8310.

Asian Likes Uncut Latino

Asian Likes would like to meet horse hung Latino, uncut for foreskin worship and oral sex and foreplay. ☎ 8313.

Rural Man seeks Soulmate

Lonely, spiritual mid 40's man seeks friend or companion to share mountain top mobile home, 2hrs north of bay area. Me: inexperienced, lonely, outdoors oriented. You: younger, not effeminate, lonely too? ☎ 8214.

Thinker seeks Thinker

Determined to better society, grow intellectually? Extremely bright, introspective, but non-spiritual, non-artsy? Insecure, but masculine communication? HIV+? Let's meet! Me: teacher, 33, 190#, 6'1", goatee, you: 20-40, med/slim, facial-haired. ☎ 8215.

No Trophy Seeker

WM, bodybuilder digs other BM bodybuilders. Great looking, masc., b/b, 36yr, 5'10", 200#. HIV+, NS. I give as good as I get. Beefy and friendly? Let's wrap. ☎ 8258.

Where for art thou

Pierced, tattooed, HIV+, bottom, HM, 27, 5'5", 170#, seeks versatile top, 25-35, W/HM for fun, movies, dining, companionship etc, for serious LTR. ☎ 8216.

GBM Masculine & Mature

Wanted by African-American GM, 33, 5'9", dancer, positive. Searching for culturally intact AA man, 30-45yo, mentally & physically fit. Sports oriented. Bilingual a plus. Down to earth. Islanders welcome. ☎ 8217.

Asian Male

Sought by vintage Italian for friendship, romantic interludes. Cuddling, caressing, kissing, leading to that ultimate moment of truth. Someone who enjoys body contact. Travel companion to Miami Beach, March 1998. ☎ 8218.

Visualize Whirled Peas

GWM, rugged Bear, 46, 6', 250#, 40", HIV+, br/b, beard, hairy, sensitive lone wolf, romantic, intelligent, sees well built beefy guy for mutually satisfying stuff. Strong silent types a plus. ☎ 8219.

Passionate, Romantic GWM

34, 5'10", 165, br/b, enjoys dancing, swimming, music, movies, and everything else life has to offer, seeks romantic, athletic, GLM for friendship or more. ☎ 8220.

Sugar Daddy Seeks Boy 25 to 40

For long-term San Francisco relationship. Be HIV+, with good energy and intelligence, no smoke, drink, or drugs. Live-in preferred. ☎ 8221.

GWM 5+ yr Substance Free

Hopes to meet soulmate fun loving and compassionate em. 40 yr, 5'9", 170#, work-out, stable, avg looks. ☎ 8222.

Slender, Healthy, 25/y/o

Intro yoga, health food, music & politics seeks gentleman to be my knight in shining armour! Call now!! ☎ 8223.

GWM Seeks GWM or Spaniard

Under 30 preferred, I'm Portuguese, 5'8", 165#, light brown hair, hazel green eyes, 23 years young. HIV+ only please. NS/ND. Friendship, hanging out, possibly more. ☎ 8224.

Sugar Daddy Seeks Boy 25 to 40

For this GWM, 30+, for fun, relationship & watching Maria Stewart in bed on Sundays! ☎ 8225.

ISO Tall, good-looking, nice-built, romantic, good kisser, Adventurous

GWM 30's, for this GWM, 35+, qualities 5'11", 145#, for fun, relationship & watching Maria Stewart in bed on Sundays! ☎ 8226.

Black Man Short Legs Beard

170, 6'1", 41, HIV+, sks friends. Me: musician percussion teacher, programmer for radio station, masseur & gardener. Live in a cabin in Mendocino county. Visit Bay area occasionally. Into spiritual practices, vegetarianism & very simple living. Not looking for sex buddy. ☎ 8330.

Attractive Latino

Good looking Latino, 32, 5'7", 150#, dark hair, brown eyes, goatee, looking for GWM between 27-37.

Friendship or More

Like to go to movies, biking, hiking, dining out. Just call. ☎ 8331.

Let's Meet

European WM, mid 30's, 6'1", 175#, br/b, HIV+, non-smoker, professional, looking for friendship and hopefully more. Interests include outdoors, hiking, books, music, movies, travel. ☎ 8412.

Intergrate: Mind Body Spirit

Old/Fat wants young fat to play with on weekends, for fishing, dining, bed play etc. Toothless fun for you. ☎ 8312.

Wanted Cute Young Guy For Play

Old/Fat wants young fat to play with on weekends, for fishing, dining, bed play etc. Toothless fun for you. ☎ 8313.

Hungry For True Love & Romance

Asian artist, 5'8", 140#, 35yrs, very sex & healthy, slim. Enjoy theater, music, movies, any kind of sports.

Seeking GWM, 50-60ys, big heart, honest, lot of humor. Serious only.

Pls call Thanks. Gray hair A+ looks not important. ☎ 8315.

A Grandfather Turning Sixty

Asian artist, 5'8", 140#, 35yrs, very sex & healthy, slim. Enjoy theater, music, movies, any kind of sports.

Floridian Wants New Beginning

Generosity and attention for discreet under 30, bi/straight, healthy buck. By secure, discreet, HIV-, 46 year old GWM. No commitment. ☎ 8423.

Student Struggling?

Generosity and attention for discreet under 30, bi/straight, healthy buck. By secure, discreet, HIV-, 46 year old GWM. No commitment. ☎ 8423.

Loving Dad Seeks Loving Son

Attr., yng looking-acting, mature GWM, 74, 5'8", 165, seeks romantic-sexual on going times with gdkng, under 40, boy. Am open to a LTR. ☎ 8316.

Mature FF Btm

Seeks FF connection with loving but dominant bald/buzz cut, facial haired FF top only, for bonding, intimacy. Serious only—not looking for sex only partners. ☎ 8317.

Submit to Daddy

Handsome GWM bodybuilder, 6', 190+, 40's, varied interests ISO submissive muscular GWM with 50 who likes to please Daddy & interested in monogamous LTR. Honesty & sincerity a must. ☎ 8318.

Love & Romance in Walnut Creek

GWM, 35, 5'7", good shape, nice smile, easy-going, ISO happy, good-looking partner. My wild oats are sown, now I want to plant one on you—Only you! ☎ 8319.

Masculine Mexican Wanted

Slender, muscular, boyish 40 year old GWM, blue eyes, brown hair, gentle, professional singer, new to west—no drugs, bars. ISO masculine, Mexican man, 30-45, for passion, romance—LTR. ☎ 8320.

Cute Latinx 4 Blonde Lover

Male: romantic GWM, 26, 5'8", 150#, br/b, not into scene. UB: blonde,

GWM, 25-35y, 5'8", 6', 150-180#, c/c top, NS/ND, into movies, beach,

cuddling, European A+. ☎ 8321.

Mediterranean Type

Creatively intelligent fair complexioned, seeks friendship or romantic relationship. Any age. Enjoy nature, ethnic foods, G.G. Park, biking, entrepreneur—have time. Healthy. ☎ 8324.

Attractive Latin

GLM, 25, 5'8", 160 lbs, enjoy working out. Ex-exotic dancer, very straight action ISO GWM/GLM, 28-40, similar interests. ☎ 8324.

Visualize Whirled Peas

GWM, rugged Bear, 46, 6', 250#, 40", HIV+, br/b, enjoys dancing, swimming, music, movies, and everything else life has to offer, sees well built Black or Latino man for companionship and wild loving. ☎ 8325.

Ivory Seeks Ebony

Handsome GWM, tall, lean and muscular build, 40, top out going, dreaming of well-built Black or Latino man for friendship and wild loving. ☎ 8326.

Ready Now for a LTR?

Quality GWM, 38, professional, quiet & shy type, healthy, stable, with places to go seek other stable gay men for possible loving, caring & stimulating LTR. No games please!! ☎ 8426.

Romantic & Sincere

Nice looking young active 50ish GWM, 5'8", 162#, NS, bright, personable, successful, affectionate & fun, seeks 35-48, GWM with heart, brain & smile. Be honest, communicative & looking to share life's special moments. ☎ 8427.

More than One Date

GWM, 34, 185#, br/b, bearded, furry, computer professional seeks lean, tall, fair men (beards A+). GWM 25-45. Likes: eating out, Celtic & blues music, Sci-Fi, city hikes, ferry rides, & day trips. ☎ 8428.

SEEKING ADVENTURE

October's Forecast: Hot!

I'm a good-looking, fun & friendly GWM who wants to meet a young, horny, masculine, Chinese guy for socializing, night-clubbing, and steamy sex. ☎ 8226.

Bend Over—I'll Drive

Big Dick Italian top wants to "plug-up" every hole in your body. Looking for a masculine, hard body eager to please bottom. ☎ 8227.

Woof! Looking for Hirsute Time

GWM, 39, 5'10", 190#, dark blond buzz, gray eyes, bearded seeks hirsute pleasures. Hairless girl a must. Let's connect. ☎ 8228.

In Lieu of Lotsa Stipulations:

A. I suck good. B. You shoot lots. ☎ 8229.

Leather Couple ISO Vers. Tops

Must be into CS, rimming, B/D. We can be the boy & make him watch us play with each other for awhile, then make him turn giving us service. ☎ 8230.

Simplicity Cums to SF

1. I suck your (rock hard) dick real good. 2. You shoot your max. ☎ 8231.

Are You Ready to get it in?

Want to work your butt & mouth with 8 hard inches? Are you a hot bottom looking for a sexy—handsome top? Leave me the details! ☎ 8232.

Southern Oregon Master 66

Requires service of slave free to relocate finical independent to serve Master. Age and race unimportant. HIV-physical disability OK, but must be able to serve. ☎ 8234.

Rope Splice Knots
Penn. Your body or mine. Me: 58yrs, GWM, 135#, 5'6", smooth, muscular, gym toned. CBT, TT. You any age, size, race. ☎ 8235.

Sexy Italian Seeks Playmate
GWM, 42, 5'10", 200#, br (bald), br, hairy, beard, topless in LTR. Seks discreet GWM in similar situation. Hairy & vers. A+, 57 only. ☎ 8236.

Submissive Bottom-Boy Fuck-Toy
Small, smooth, slender, sexy, unconventional pirate boy 33, with boots, muscled legs, long hair, goatee, big dick, hot butt, surrenders to slender, safe, horny, hung, rock-hard tops, 18-40. ☎ 8237.

Wanted: Good Sex
GWM, 40, 195 lbs. and HIV+. seeks Black, Asian, or Hispanic men for good sex. I like oral, anal, and good foreplay. Must be positive, 20-35 yrs. old, and good-looking. Call me. ☎ 8238.

Want to Ride a Big Bear Butt?
Me: Cauc., bearded, Daddy Bear, 5'6", 280, with horny, hungry butt. You: under 45 yrs, trim to bulky otter, face hair, insatiable. Fuck me, Boy! ☎ 8239.

I Wanna Suck Your Ass...
Italian stud whore, 44, 6', 190#, goatee, rugged build, wants to bury my tongue up your hot, clean butt. late night Castro sex. Fri-Mon, 12-5 AM. ☎ 8240.

Surrender to Pleasure
GWM, seeks horny GM who enjoys being jacked off by another guy. Object; sensation, stimulus, fun, pleasure, climax, and content men +. I'm 51, 5'3", 175 lbs., beard, HIV-. ☎ 8241.

Daddy ISO Dick Lover
Yng GWM, 18-25, apply for position as dick lover. Can handle my huge tool. ☎ 8242.

Hung?
So deep, so sweet, my lips & throat working your big meat. my tight bubble butt is ready too, my legs spread wide to satisfy you. Hot blonde botton. 37/6'2"/195#. ☎ 8243.

Daylight Delight!
Versatile, good-looking bottom, 37/6'2"/195#, bubble butt & deep throat for your deepest satisfaction. UB; hot, horny, hung & fun guy(s), under 50, decent shape. Don't wait—enjoy now! ☎ 8244.

Seeking Similar Buddy
Quality GWM, 6', 175#, 38, br/breast, stache, athletic, caring, sensitive, HIV-, seeks similar for friendship or more. Safe and clean. ☎ 8245.

Big Fire Hose?
I have 2 hot spots that need your big equipment. 37/6'4/200#. Voracious bottom wants it bad and does it good. UB; well hung—any race. ☎ 8246.

Sucking Slow Head
Long thin and stiff preferred. Blond boy hole licked too. Late thirties, nice build, blond, long hair + preferred. ☎ 8247.

Short White Boy Sks Tall Black Dad
Milky out of shape, cute leon boy toy, 5'6", 140, seeks serious Black Dad to train me through motivation, manipulation, use, abuse, praise and humiliation. Please sir, train me to be your best boy. sir. ☎ 8248.

Kick Back
GWM, 5'10", 160, br;br, cln, shaven, fun, friendly, luv to suck and play with cock and balls. Sks, mascl, trim, GWM, GA or GH, 18040. Reg service. ☎ 8249.

East Daddy ISO
Submissive boys or men, 18-25, who enjoy sucking and getting fucked by a rock hard cock with hours of staying power. ☎ 8250.

Just Shut-up and Ride!
WM, 32, 5'10", 200 lb., blond hair/blue eye/muscle hunk (48" ch, 32" w, 18" arms) wants good-looking and masculine men to pump me—anytime. ☎ 8251.

Seeking Big Dicked JO Buddies
Let's show off our proud cocks to each other in a mutual JO. Sexy bicyclist, hairy chest, big fat dick. No drugs or alcohol. ☎ 8252.

Hot Black Man 40ish Ex-marine
Seeks mature man, uncut, but any size, race welcome. Must be 60+. ☎ 8233.

Generous Gentleman
Seeks handsome, youthful, steady companion for evening passion, fine dining, cultural adventures—Must be uninhibited, in-shape, dependable, versatile, bottom. Stipend available. I'm 40, good-looking, in-shape, professional. ☎ 8253.

Looking for Mr. Hombres
GWM, 45 yo, 6', 147#, blue/brown, gym-toned, slim-build, masculine, goatee, top and HIV-. Interested in meeting Latin males, 21-45, muscular, slender to average and bottom for hot times. no fms/flakes please. ☎ 8254.

Super-Hung Black Oakland Stud
45, needs to receive expert in-home deep throat service at 6AM, weekdays. Serious experts (with mustache) only please, no indirect (cel, bpr, pgr) phone #'s. ☎ 8332.

East Bay HIV+ Only
Versatile, attractive, healthy, short, olive complexion, clean and available weekdays M-F. Seeks mutual cock sucking & possible anal play. Age, ethnicity unimportant. ☎ 8333.

Want to Play with 8 Inches?
It's big and thick on a blond, handsome, in shape, hairy chested, lustful, top, who are a sincere, playful bottom who likes to please with your mouth or hot ass. ☎ 8334.

Attractive Professional
GWM, 47, 5'7", 155, in shape, HIV-, seeking younger buddy for movies, arts, weekends a way. Fun time & out of bed. ☎ 8335.

Bitch Fuck Me
U top, HIV+, aggressive, demanding, ready 4 service. Me: 56, hairy, healthy & willing. Love it on all fours. ☎ 8336.

Stud Boy Wanted
If you're young, smooth, 18-35, bottom. Me: young Daddy, blond, blue, 165, 5'9", see ya stud boyz. 3 ways cool. Let's do it! ☎ 8337.

Me: Hairy, Unshaven, Masculine
Wanna be biker slave. No cologne, deodorant, 24, 5'11", 180#, work out occasionally. You: same but older, hung and mean. Push me around, beat on me, use and abuse. ☎ 8338.

Naked at the Door
Have you ever answered your door stark naked? Trim, masculine, WM, 41, wants to interview lean, masculine, young guys for sex and nudity survey. ☎ 8339.

It Might As Well Be Springtime
Ready & primed to meet new friends for fun and frolic. Relived 4 yrs, 37, brn/hzl, +GWM. Tall, slim, handsome. Seeks someone who enjoys low-budget travel, out door activities, + daytrips. Easy-going, healthy, and solid. Take a chance. ☎ 8340.

E Bay Married Bi-Bear & Toy Boy
Seek adventure w/other men, 18-40ish, SF, Bay area. We aim to please. No S&M, just good safe sex fun! ☎ 8341.

Palo Alto Afternoon Delite By
38yo Asian ckssr, UB: 7 inches or more, prefer daytime M-, anything wknd. ☎ 8342.

A1 Oral Service—Delivered
SF GWM, HIV-, 6', handsome, delivers complete oral service to mature, trim guys who really dig getting sucked off. Your place, no reciprocation. ☎ 8343.

SF Over 50 Gum Job Wanted Eves
45, WM, 5'10", 165#, HIV-, med blid, br/bur, musta, 7X5 1/2 cut cock ringed meat seeks hungry milder (not) on reg basis. Seriously off! ☎ 8344.

Pacific Islanders Wanted
Interested in meeting Pacific Islander guys, 18-35, masculine, slender to average, and gym-toned for hot times. Thais and Filipinos welcomed. I'm GWM, 45, 5'4", blue/brown, slim build, goatee, gym-toned & HIV-. ☎ 8345.

Attention, Huge Nipples
Wanted by hot muscular 39 yr old. I will service them for you. I'm very good at what I do, suck, lick, pull, etc. The bigger, freakier the better! ☎ 8346.

Torture Boys

25-40 muscular, hard chest, tough balls, willing to suffer. Let's push our limits. Be dominated, controlled through creative bondage, CBT, TT, etc. by mind 40's top, 6', 180#, experienced, handsome, imaginative. Expect to work for it. ☎ 8432.

Short Men

You: 5'5" or under. You enjoy having your cock serviced. Me: 5'7", average looks and build, 38 yrs old. ☎ 8433.

Anxious Attractive Asian

5'7", 130#, 32w ISO fit, GWM, 30-40, for hot safe & nasty action. Urgent relief needed! ☎ 8444.

Real Man Seeks Young Phone Boy
45, needs to receive expert in-home deep throat service at 6AM, weekdays. Serious experts (with mustache) only please, no indirect (cel, bpr, pgr) phone #'s. ☎ 8440.

Need East Bay Cock sucker
Berkeley, GWM, 43, 6', 195#, seeks cocksucker for regular sessions. Enjoy individual, group & public sex, videos, etc. ☎ 8442.

Hotel Head Job?
Straight-looking & straight acting bi white guy, 40, HIV+, hairy, husky, mustache, seeks guys into casual sex in my Civic Center (Market ST) hotel room. Comdoms a must. No recip required. Anal for right man. ☎ 8349.

Wanna Blow Job?
GWM, 38, mustache, hazel/brown, HIV+, hairy, husky, oral service, seeks men/men under 50 into getting off, with no bulb shit, questions or commitment. Safe sex a must! Uncut, mustache, Latino A+. ☎ 8445.

GAM, 25, 5'6", 116 lbs.
Smooth and cute, looking for GWM, 19 to 37, ht/wt proportionate, cut with a tight white ass for hot times. Be versatile, attractive and into having a good time. ☎ 8351.

Straight has Multi JO Fantasy
Masculine, WM, 55, seeks WM over 65 to tie me down helpless and jack me off until balls are drained dry. Feeding me cum after each spil. ☎ 8429.

Handsome Hung Tan Top
In-shape, hairy chest, 8 big uncut inches, 38, seeks young sincere bottom guys to 35 for oral and anal workouts. Let's play. ☎ 8430.

Nice Arms & Pecs
Good looking GWM, 52, 5'11", 190#, HIV+, healthy, slightly overweight seeks fun times/sex with men with nice arms and pecs. ☎ 8431.

Rough Rider from the South Bay
POZ muscle jock, mostly top, seeks stocky POZ muscle bear into cuffs, ropes, sweaty workouts. I'm a GWM, 5'5", 150, brnl. For a must. Heavy beard a plus. ☎ 8434.

Fuck Buddy Wanted
Well-endowed uncut BM ISO neg, in-shape, male with great mouth and ass for get together's at your place, BM, European A+ but all welcomed. ☎ 8435.

Muscle & Leather Groups
Interviewing for three top notch muscled guys, 25-40, hot for leather, FF = toys, groups, on going action with grade A masculine dude ready to pledge for excellent, nasty bonding. ☎ 8436.

Poz Muscle Bear Top
Hot, passionate & sensual bottom, SGWM, br/hzl, 5'11", 175, 71, 50, HIV+, workout. You: like passionate kissing, tit play, giving & receiving head, eating ass, long gentle fucking, age, race unimportant. No drugs or heavy drinking, safe sex. I have been given a 10 in sex recently. Open to, but not looking for a LTR. Daytime or evening. 3 ways ok. ☎ 8455.

In-Shape Muscular Guys Only
Hot sex! I'm 5'8", 185 lbs., white, work-out everyday. Looking for similar fun guy(s) for sex. Let's celebrate how hot we are together. ☎ 8347.

Hot Man
Seeks sizzling boy, WM, 5'11", 165 wants fun with Asian, Latino, 25-35, slim, must speak fluent English. Dinners, movies, dancing, travel, like cats, 60-70's music. NS/ND, light drinker OK. ☎ 8438.

Fuck My Hot Ass
Hot, passionate & sensual bottom, SGWM, br/hzl, 5'11", 175, 71, 50, HIV+, workout. You: like passionate kissing, tit play, giving & receiving head, eating ass, long gentle fucking, age, race unimportant. No drugs or heavy drinking, safe sex. I have been given a 10 in sex recently. Open to, but not looking for a LTR. Daytime or evening. 3 ways ok. ☎ 8455.

Tall Black Hung Huge and Thick

You not fat. Me: hot, 40, 170, 5'11", smooth GWM. You get total service.

Let's get nasty, sleazy, twisted, out

on party favors. Some place dirty and

for cruising for some young street trash

and orgy. Me: into most scenes. Masculine. ☎ 8456.

Mariad Top Boys Seek Fuck Buddy

Attractive, dark-featured, very defined and muscular top is looking for an attractive, tall and submissive bottom. I'm in a LTR but seek a regular sex partner. ☎ 8457.

Seeking Masculine, Lean Bottom

Muscular, ripped, Italian seeks horny,

attractive man with a defined body

who loves to get fucked. You should

be under 35, a non-smoker and available

for sex during the daytime or early evening. ☎ 8458.

Suck My Butt—Then Fuck It
Horny & handsome Italian bottom, 44, 61, 200#, goatee, S&P hair, rugged build, beefy butt needs you up my ass. Castro sex 12-5AM. ☎ 8441.

Furry Legs
Pitch a big tent in my shorts. Wrap those hairy limbs around me and I'll rock and roll you. 6'2", 175#, handsome, 35, wild tongued top. ☎ 8442.

Butthole Bottom
GWM, 61, 165 lbs, br/hzl, Italian/German, 39, HIV+, loves taking up the butt I SO lean Caucasian who loves to give it. Any time. Any place. ☎ 8443.

Uncut Seeks Experienced Kinky

Top men to make my cum. Me: 61,

170#, smooth, 32 yo, 81. You: tall,

hairy, stache, top/vers, into bondage,

toys, & kinky. ☎ 8445.

Hung Big

Hot, 61, 37, 160#, good-looking all-

American collegiate-type w/gym-toned

body. Hung, big, versatile. ☎ 8446.

Feet Sheer Socks Thongs & More

Attractive Latino, 31, 5'11", HIV-,

dark features, Virgo, size 12, HIV-, NS,

would like to meet Latinos or whites

under 32. NS/ND, into foot

fetish...size 11 plus. Seriously only. ☎ 8259.

Over the Knee Spanking Needed

GWM, 40's, 5'11", 165#, br/h, br/e,

beard/must...requires lecture & cor-

poral punishment w/brads, paddle on

my pants, shorts & bare butt.

Teacher, boss or? Discipline not.

S&M, Thank you, sir! ☎ 8260.

Foot Fantasies Fulfilled Here

Lifelong cravings for reciprocal foot

licking, smeling, caressing, naked

body closeness, 10, sensually. Dirty

soles OK. Uninhibited, EB, masculi-

ne, tan, good-looking GWM, 5'9",

140#, HIV-seeks foot buddy and

friend. ☎ 8467.

Spanking

GWM, 40, 5'7", 145#, masculine,

hairy, wants to spank and fuck ass of

smart ass, punk, son, employee,

parolee under 35. ☎ 8262.

Masculine-Buffed-Levis-Panties

Fondle, care, press my ass-lips thru

sheer panties. When lathered and hot

to spread, slip my panties down my

muscled legs and fuck my pussy to

Kingdom come! ☎ 8263.

Nothing to Lose but your Loads!

You call, I come over. I suck you off.

You suck every drop off. You ask me back.

I come/you cum—often as you like! ☎ 8452.

Size Queen for Loads Not Dicks

Don't care how big your dick is. Do

care how big your load is. I suck you off

real good so you shoot all you got

for me. ☎ 8453.

Hot Ass, Big Dick

Seeking masculine, Italian, Latino

FF, toys, groups, on going action for

an attractive, tall and submissive

bottom. I'm in a LTR but seek a regular sex partner. ☎ 8457.

Seeking Masculine, Lean Bottom

Muscular, ripped, Italian seeks horny,

attractive man with a defined body

who loves to get fucked. You should

be under 35, a non-smoker and available

for sex during the daytime or early

evening. ☎ 8458.

FETISHES

Fetish to be Tied!

Slave seeks Master experienced in bondage and S&M. Early 40's, masculine, good looks. Discretion requested and reciprocated. ☎ 8255.

Nasty Top

Looking for older bottoms in shape, to be ashole eater to 44, hairy scat, top uniforms, underwear, suit A+. ☎ 8256.

Black Master Seeks Slaves OTK

mature, straight black male, 41, seeks, smooth, clean, self-supporting, non-drinking, non-smoking, slaves to spank. 20-30 (SF area) Kneel!! ☎ 8257.

Feet Sheer Socks Thongs & More

Attractive Latino, 31, 5'11", HIV-, NS, would like to meet Latinos or whites under 32. NS/ND, into foot fetish...size 11 plus. Seriously only. ☎ 8259.

Over the Knee Spanking Needed

GWM, 40's, 5'11", 165#, br/h, br/e, beard/must...requires lecture & corporal punishment w/brads, paddle on my pants, shorts & bare butt. Teacher, boss or? Discipline not. S&M, Thank you, sir! ☎ 8260.

Foot Fantasies Fulfilled Here

Lifelong cravings for reciprocal foot licking, smeling, caressing, naked body closeness, 10, sensually. Dirty soles OK. Uninhibited, EB, masculine, tan, good-looking GWM, 5'9", 140#, HIV-seeks foot buddy and friend. ☎ 8467.

Hands & Tongue

All over body massage by 55 yr old slim male. Lie back and let me take care of all those little places of pleasure. ☎ 8465.

Oral Fetishes

I'm a 38 yo GWM, 155#, 61, and the sight of a man casually sucking on his eyeglass stems, pens etc, really turns me into a submissive oral servant. ☎ 8465.

Bondage for Asians

WM, late 40's, 5'11", 165#, br/h, br/e, beard/must...requires lecture & corporal punishment w/brads, paddle on my pants, shorts & bare butt. Teacher, boss or? Discipline not. S&M, Thank you, sir! ☎ 8260.

Hands & Tongue

All over body massage by 55 yr old slim male. Lie back and let me take care of all those little places of pleasure. ☎ 8465.

Crutches

Older GWM into scenes with younger GM involving crutches, canes, or wheelchair. ☎ 8354.

Asshole Service

You on rim seat watching videos. Butt toys optional. Me: 46, 160, 5'11", masc., attr. You: in shape, to all work. use for pleasure. Wide open to everything. ☎ 8355.

<h3

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Out There

◀ page 39

in which Singular quotes an *Esquire* profile from the mid-'70s that described the Geffen/Bono art collection as being of the "draped-shepherds-relaxing-against-columns school" and their sense of interior design as "clobbering gloom." The same profile mentions Geffen swallowing a hot dog whole in two seconds and then running to a bathroom to vomit.

Insults are hurled with abandon in these pages. Geffen once publicly referred to **Mick Jagger** as a "tired stripper," called **Bob Dylan** a "liar," and said that **Crosby, Stills, and Nash** were "old fat farts." Others have had their say about Geffen, too. **Julia Phillips** called him an asshole, and **Irving Azoff**, who headed MCA records in the '70s, routinely used to refer to Geffen as "she" and often made jokes about his "prowess at fellatio."

Glomming on?

Funny how in the wake of Ellen DeGeneres' enormously well-rated coming-out episode, certain entertainment types have suddenly discovered a secret homosexual past. For instance, a recent edition of the late-night talk show *Vibe* featured former TV star **Maureen McCormick** eagerly divulging details of the sexual relationship she allegedly shared with co-star **Eve Plumb** during the making of *The Brady Bunch* series back in the '70s. *Vibe's* host seemed nonplussed by Maureen's unexpected admission, but the audience whooped its approval wildly. "We even tongued each other," McCormick admitted, smiling and giggling. Smile all you like, Maureen, but it's doubtful you'll be joining the cast of *Ellen* anytime soon.

Cyndi Lauper has been making queer statements, too, though of a much more subtle (and we think genuine) nature. Lauper's latest record, *Sisters of Avalon*, contains a lengthy list of acknowledgments to various people, including **Jan Pulsford**, about whom Lauper writes: "If ever people are curious to see the man behind the woman, please take note that in this case it is a woman behind a woman." *Sisters of Avalon* also contains a curious song about "Little Joe," who "waits in his platform for the right train to come" and who "works his body just to be somebody... a dancing queen."

Lost in nostalgia

We picked up *TV Guide* the other day hoping to get the skinny on some great new **Martha Stewart** special but instead discovered a fascinating interview with the cast of the '60s sci-fi adventure series *Lost in Space*. We thought for certain that the "space family Robin-

son" had long ago entered the mysterious void that seems to devour all television stars, but we were wrong. As the laws of nostalgia will have things in Tinsel Town, the cast of the show has been picked from oblivion to provide cameo appearances for a now-in-the-works *Lost in Space* movie to be released next year. But, says *TV Guide*, only **June Lockhart, Mark Goddard, Angela Cartwright, and Marta Kristen** will appear in the film. "We couldn't come to business terms," **Bill Mumy** (aka **Will Robinson**) told *TV Guide*. **Jonathan Harris**, the queer-acting straight actor who played fruity **Dr. Smith**, and who spent years in exile in a box on *Hollywood Squares*, added, "They offered me an innocuous six-line bit. In my life I have never played bits, and I'm not about to start now."

Little things matter

If HBO's **Elton John** biopic *Tantrums and Tiaras* wasn't enough to convince you that John is one of the most pretentious queens in the universe, **Caroline Cass'** new book *Elton John's Flower Fantasies: An Intimate Tour of His Houses and Gardens* (\$35, Bullfinch Press) no doubt will. The book features 120 photographs capturing a year of "dazzling" floral arrangements in the singer's homes — "room by room." If the chapter headings alone don't make you gag — "Blue & Mauve," "Pink & Pale," "Cream & White" — you're sure to heave over what is without doubt the most ghastly and fru-fru interior decorating ever published in a book. Like those infamous Beverly Hills Arabs, John appears to be fond of dressing up his statutory. His 19th-century **white marble bust of a young man** is shown sporting a floral bow tie of pink carnations, as well as the hat John wore in his video for "I'm Still Standing." One photograph shows a mantelpiece bearing a collection of fussy collectibles — porcelain clocks and matching vases, "mid-19th-century Staffordshire leopards on green bases" — while another features a butler's table on which rests Elton's precious collection of heart-shaped Limoges boxes delicately entwined in a string of purple violets.

In spite of the subject matter, John is unable to credit a floral muse for his success. He remarks: "I can't say that flowers have influenced my music in any way other than having them around when I am figuring out a melody. Perhaps they have influenced **Bernie Taupin** because he is a very country person ... being a sensitive soul, flowers probably mattered to him." Guess he's a little bit country, and she's a little bit rock 'n' roll — and judging from John's stubby little fingers, it's probably a very little bit indeed. ▼

Rita Will

◀ page 45

nominally. It hurt us, too, but we could better absorb it. We are the richest nation on earth. Squandering resources, bad as it is, hasn't destroyed us as it did the Communists. If we keep it up it will though."

Rita Will is 479 pages of dreary drivel, divided, by whom as far as I could tell, into 85 chapters. That works out to 5.6 pages per chapter, a statistic which suggests that Brown misunderstands chaos theory as it applies to the personal memoir. The Reagan observation, for example, can be found in a chapter that includes observations on fox-hunting and the news that Brown was "bored to the point of dementia with

being America's leading lesbian." I'm unclear on just why Brown considered herself America's leading lesbian in 1987, but perhaps this was just another manifestation of her delusions of grandeur.

The mini-chapters do balance nicely with the one- and two-sentence paragraphs that fill these pages, but there is no structure, not in any chapter nor in the book as a whole. The entire thing reads like it was spewed into a tape recorder, then transcribed word for word. No effort appears to have been made to arrange the plethora of facts, factoids, memories and observations. Perhaps Brown felt that she had no obligation to organize when she had those libel laws to worry about. How many forests were destroyed for this awful book? Too many. Too many by half. ▼

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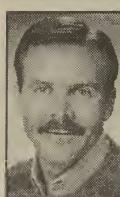
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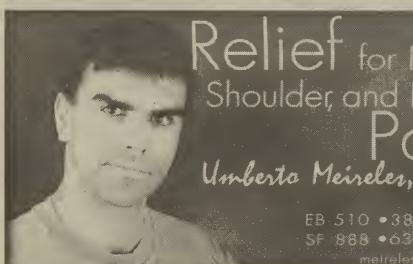
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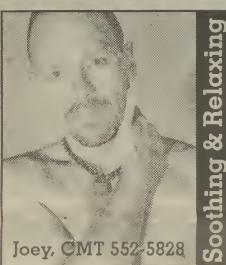

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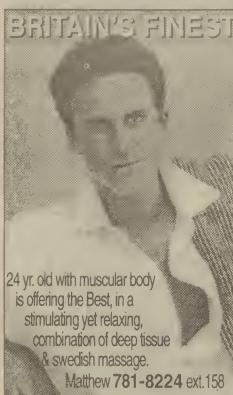

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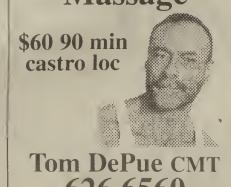
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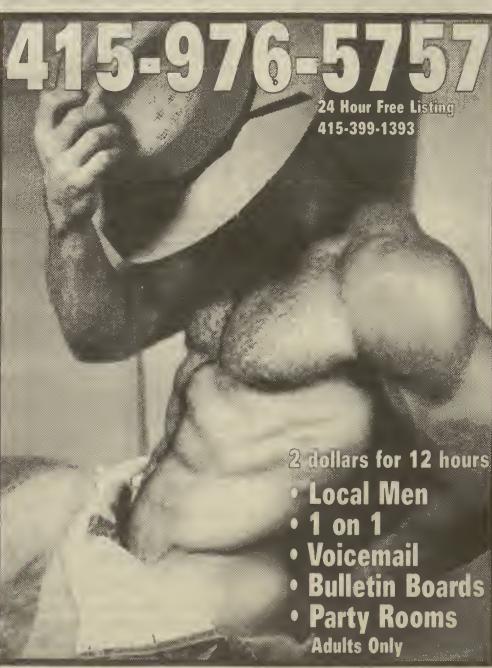
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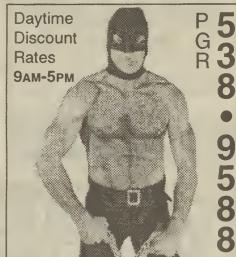
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HOT PISS BUDDY

Masculine, 6'3", 260 lb, 25yr old,
very muscular and handsome. Damon

679-1684

E42

YOUNG HUNK

Masculine, 6'3", 260 lb, 25yr old,
very muscular and handsome. Damon

679-1684

E42

REAL NICE 9X5

ATHLETIC, MASC, STRAIGHT-UP
6'1", 175, BR/GR, GTE, SF-SJ

AM'S/EVES MATTHEW 224-6674

E42

HOTTEST TOP IN TOWN!

Call me up. 648-0119

E44

Sensual Msg, Escort
Body/Foot Worship
Discount for 2 Clients
346-7975 Kevin Asian Dream

ITALIAN
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NICK.
Pager 679-1864
\$120

HOT.

BIG TOOL
Attached to mask Ger-Ital man tanned
swimmer's build, br hr, br eyes, 6ft, 180
lbs, 42ch, 32wt, 10" c Out only Daniel
pgr 415-538-9587, VM 707-939-6963

E43

MASCULINE MUSCULAR STUD

BIG HAIRY PECS

RIPPED ABS, LOW HANGERS, 8"
6', 190#, Call Tony Pgr 303-2895

E42

UNCUT - HUNG - TOP

Clean cut, smooth, swimmer's build,
24 hours, open all fantasies only
out. Jeff 314-9586

E44

TATTOOES ATHLETIC BLD

Hot man 605-5242 Bpr

E43

East Bay - Lick my feet, size 10 1/2, 30,
6'2", 200#, brown/blue, clean-cut grad

stud. \$50 (510) 595-0838, Austin

E43

CUTE ASIAN BOY TOY

5'6", 120 lbs, 25yo. Arms to please

David pg 792-2345 btw 7AM and 9PM

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Top Stud: true 10" uncut & X-thick

Hot lean muscular body, 5'11"/160#

also: "Complete Erotic Massage." \$60

560-7081 :: IN/OUT (SF)

E42

HOT ASIAN

Cute, muscular, tan, affectionate, personable,
S/F & E Bay 510-306-1244 Out

E42

Handsome Man

6'3", 185#, blnd/blu, Top/versatile

Out 24hrs Chase Pgr 280-1651

E44

SUPER PORNSTAR!

Young, trim, fit & healthy physique

Magnetic energy, open to anything! Se

rious inquiries only. 24hr 605-3754

E42

HOT PISS BUDDY

and bizarre fantasies-Mike 227-6115

E42

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Masculine, 6'3", 260 lb, 25yr old,

very muscular and handsome. Damon

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25YO COUPLE FOR YOU

5'11", 160#, bl/bl, 9", 5'8", 145#,

br;br, great butt. Out 24hr Pgr 790-0551

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6'1", 175, BR/GR, GTE, SF-SJ

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-long, & slow-my specialty.
6'2", 185, strong, gyromtoned
master into all aspects &
degrees of leatherplay.
S/M, B&D, FF, WS, raunch.
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Legs and Ass
Perfect Legs and Ass
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Blond, Bl
22 yrd Grc
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415-552-8143

Anthony
Photo: RAM STUDIOS
6'2
8 1/2 x 6
27 y.o.
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Serving all bay areas

SERIOUS PLEASURES

Friendly grad student type who is in-shape, 145#, 6'1", 24yo.
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E43

FANTASY MASTER

30yo well built dominant top
Experienced, creative, kinky
All scenes mild & hard core
Novice, curious welcome
Adam 415-977-6822 pgr

E42

Tall, Slim, Smooth, Friendly, Cute

SEXY BLOND BOY

Versatile, Hotels, In/Out 560-5621

E42

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grad student 487-7600

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Ass-kickin' boot stomped skin punk
sadist delivers dungeon dogs &
bootlickin' boys their surrender w/a
smile 10-10PM 621-5016, only.

Master Karl-uniforms, leather, fun

E42

27, 6', 160, blond/blue, buzzed

HUNG BIG UNCURT!

888-990-4330 ANYTIME

E43

LEATHER/SM/FANTASY

Dominant top, 38 yo, 6'1", 195#, 7"
uncut, flat top, mustache, blue eyes, looks
military. Into bondage, S/M, W/S, CBT,
F/F, fantasy, most scenes. Beginner?
Have playspace equipment and toys Scott

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E42

DOMINATION!!!!

S&M curious? Serious calls only please!

24hrs, 2byo, Hot, Hot! 605-3754

E42

SLAVE FOR SALE

Obedient, hardworking lad offers self.
Young & energetic, totally hot body.

Please sir, may I be of service to you?

David 527-8124

E42

Tall Asian Boy 776-5169 • 739-7954

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REAL NICE 9X5

ATHLETIC, MASC, STRAIGHT-UP

6'1", 175, BR/GR, GTE, SF-SJ

AM'S/EVES MATTHEW 224-6674

E44

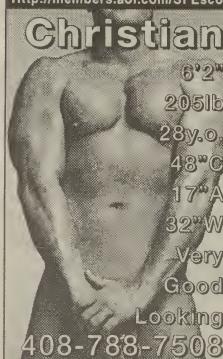
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E44

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BUILD, 8" UNCUT

STORM

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Sexy Submissive

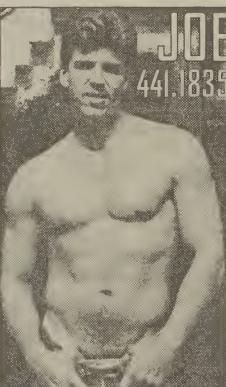
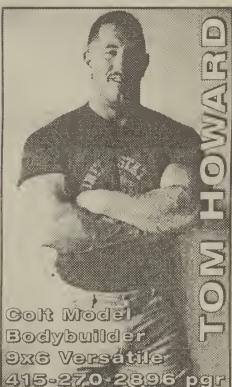
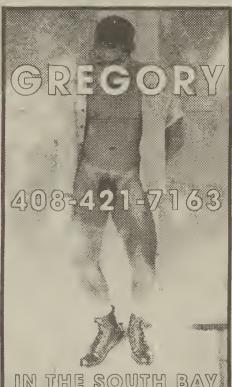
5'7"
135 lbs
24 yr

558-9351

JONATHAN

Passionate
Handsome
Versatile
Friendly
Beautiful
Hazel Eyes
5'11"/175#
Very Well
Equipped

PGR: 207-6117

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Minimum \$10 charge on Visa and MasterCard.

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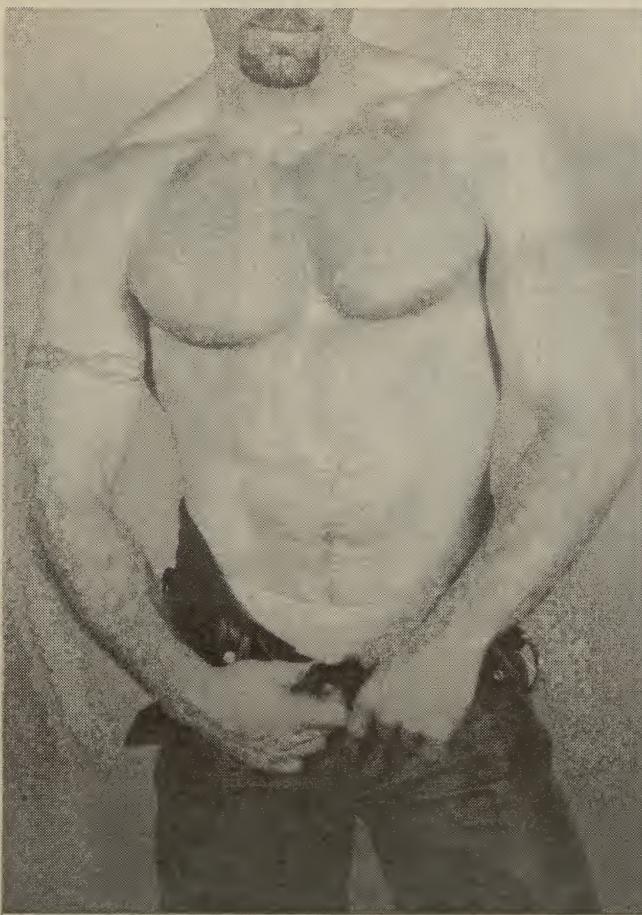
CONTACT INFORMATION

Name	Telephone
Address	
City	State Zip
Number of Issues	Classification
Amount Enclosed	

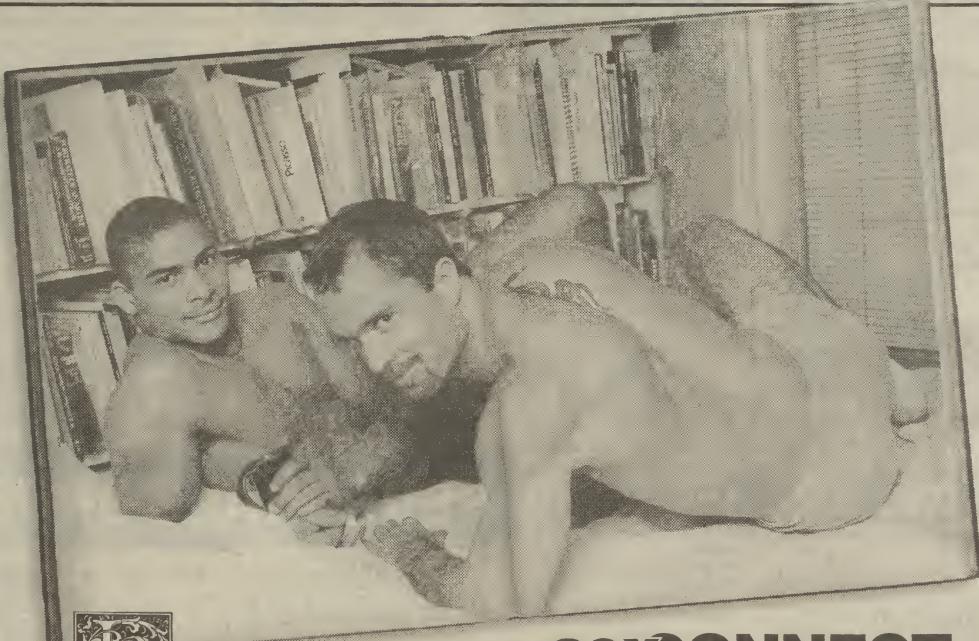
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**BAY AREA
REPORTER**
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San Francisco, CA
94103

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415.861.8144



The True Story of Luke's Night ~~Out~~ In



Luke needed to find Dick fast but...
...wandering bar to bar was unappealing,
...and doing it alone even more so.

He knew SexConnect would lead him to Dick.
Luke cruised the LIVE BACK ROOM,
listened to current LISTINGS,
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Thirty minutes later Alex called...

It's a new day now...
...and both men found Dick!!!

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